

BAY AREA REPORTER

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

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Easter brings spring flowers for spring hats, and Castro Gays weren't about to let 5th Avenue walk off with all the prizes. (Photo: Rink)

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The Milk Club backs leaders on bathhouse closure . . . p. 4

Gaylord Gets Nod for Arts Commission

by Paul Lorch

Interior Designer and Pacific Heights socialite, Billy Gaylord joined the Feinstein administration last week.

Gaylord, 38, was appointed to a four-year term on the San Francisco Arts Commission. The 12 member commission meets once a month and has several objectives. The Arts Commission deals with the Neighborhood Arts Program as well as Children's Arts Program. The group involves itself with any public art project as well as approving designs for public buildings or renovation of them. The group also sponsors art shows, including the yearly outdoor show in the Civic Center.

The commission, according to Gaylord, "has a very big budget." It occasionally gets itself involved in controversy. In 1982 with the unveiling of Moscone Center, the commission found itself part of the storm center over the Arneson pop art, larger-than-life, bust of assassinated Mayor George Moscone. Last year the proposed George Segal holocaust memorial sculpture scheduled for Lincoln Park also embroiled the commission in a public debate.

Prominent members of the commission include radio personality Ray Taliaferro and sculptress Ruth Azawa.

Gaylord comes to the commis-

(Continued on page 3)



Designer Billy Gaylord at his Feinstein cocktail party. (Photo: Rink)

Club Owners Ready for No-Sex Rules Coming May 7

3 Sex Spas Close Down; Anger Mounts

by George Mendenhall

City Attorney George Agnost expects to complete a "rough draft" of the new regulations for the bathhouses and sex-related businesses by May 7. There will then be a public hearing before the final rules are adopted. Meanwhile, reaction to city Health Director Mervyn Silverman's April 9 decision to eliminate sexual activity in the bathhouses and sex-related businesses continues to percolate.

Bathhouse business, according to owners, which had been ailing over the AIDS scare, has taken a new dive. Sutro Baths owner Bill Jones has announced that his business will be shuttered on June 3. Liberty Baths and the Catacombs have closed. Jones joined several other bath owners last weekend to discuss their business crisis and what might be done about it.

SAFE VS. UNSAFE

Bathhouse owners and friends expressed anger and frustration on Easter Sunday as they met at Valencia Rose. Sal Accardi, Northern California Bathhouse Owners Association, said he had met with Silverman recently and that the health director "has now



Sutro Baths owner Bill Jones announced his bisexual club was closing June 3. (Photo: Rink)

discarded 'safe' sex." The position adopted by the AIDS Foundation and the national Gay physicians association had been that "safe" sex — touching, massage, masturbation, and the use of condoms for anal sex —

were to be encouraged as an alternative to other sex practices that would possibly spread AIDS.

Silverman has indicated that he cannot be in the position of

(Continued on page 14)

Jeanette MacDonald or Tony Bennett

City's Song — Which One Will It Be?

Gay Life's "San Francisco" Holds as Local Favorite

by Allen White

Straight journalists and politicians have again come to suck on a fruit of the city's Gay subculture as they eagerly jump on the "San Francisco" song bandwagon.

The hoopla began last week when *San Francisco Chronicle* camp columnist Warren Hinckle challenged the city to dump "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" as the official city song in favor of "San Francisco."

The latter song was originally sung by Jeanette MacDonald in the MGM classic 1936 film of the same name. She co-starred with Clark Gable in this Frisco Quake melodrama. For decades, the tune has been an anthem of San Francisco's Gay community.

In the early '60s, Gays bought thousands of copies of records of a Judy Garland rendition done at Carnegie Hall. Later, on tour, she sang the song at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium as thousands of Gay men screamed

in ecstatic delight. In those years a Gay bar was not considered complete without the song on the juke box. Whenever it was played, bartenders would sway the chandeliers.

Male actress Charles Pierce personified the legend in the city as he swung out over the Gilded Cage nightclub dressed to kill as the lovely Jeanette. Pierce's characterization of Jeanette was always his finale.

Contacted in his North Hollywood home, the entertainer ex-

pressed his fondness for the song. "The other song might as well have been 'I Left My Heart in Cleveland, Ohio.'" While at the Tenderloin's Gilded Cage and later at the Financial District's Gold Street and Broadway's "The City," Pierce gave the song a fresh character and spirit. The swing routine was a showstopper every time.

In the late '70s the song became a standard of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. Their treatment inspired stand-

(Continued on page 15)

Sitting in with the Ascorbate Crowd

Back Room Therapy Could Be the Back Door to Staying Alive

by Paul Lorch

One of the most confusing and heartbreaking dilemmas of someone who discovers he is an AIDS candidate is, "What treatment do I follow?"

Some, those who are stricken with pneumocystis pneumonia, are too sick to decide for themselves. For some it all depends upon what hospital they fall into, or what clinic they embrace. One patient ends up with a cancer specialist, another with a dermatologist, a third with an internist — or maybe just an intern.

The more astute, and those with greater resources, embark upon a prolonged and discouraging shopping spree. They bounce from general practitioners to specialists, to endless testing for this, probing for that. They become haunters of labs, and needle-pricked ad nauseam, and like unrequited lovers they lust for a phone call or the morning mail — in their cases the latest lab report or test result.

Many of those diagnosed are too sick, too stunned to be anything but passive. They are overwhelmed with labels and medical terminology. They ricochet from one opportunistic infection to another. With each successive siege their resolve, along with their diminished resources, weakens. Many — not knowing any longer what is happening to them — or caring — drift into death.

Others, if they have a head start, leap into the battle to recapture their health and, if at all possible, to ransom their lives. They break into the medical literature. They study their bodies like an astronomer studies the black holes in space. They ask rigorous questions, and when they don't receive a rigorous answer they know they are being bamboozled. And picking up their medical charts, their

pounds-ful of records, their discouragement and their disgust, they march off (or hobble, as the case may be) to the beat of a different medical drummer.

As their awareness expands — to them so does the word "medical." Some learn there is Chinese medicine and Indian medicine, and Freudian medicine, and Tijuana medicine — and even some "medicine" coming out of the mudflats of Emeryville. These pioneers sense that if they're going to die, it will be partly out of their own failure to find an answer, not some oncologist on a long leash from Genentech.

Some weeks back, the Bay Area Reporter spent several hours with San Mateo's Dr. Robert Cathcart, ascorbate astronaut. We followed up an introductory editorial with a two-part explanation of the doctor's thinking, written by himself, on ascorbate, Vitamin C.

And then we waited. The office took about a dozen calls seeking more information, wanting the doctor's address and phone. We were apprehensive because we knew what this meant and, predictably, the doctor was swamped with calls and inquiries. And equally predictably, there was a call back from Dr. Cathcart — one we weren't

thrilled over. Dr. Cathcart needed help.

The plea was personal — and the safety of the editorial "we" no longer served. He sought for a response (help) from me. The help he wanted isn't the customary journalist's bag of gags, or an editor's. It was one thing to interview a person, do a story on a happening; it was another to be drawn into a project for sick and dying men with AIDS who were trying to save their lives outside of mainstream medicine.

Dr. Cathcart said he no longer could handle the number of Gay men who sought him out and solicited his medical talent. Already a carpool was ferrying men with AIDS suffering from

PWA's seek support for alternative therapy.

any number of infections three days a week to his San Mateo office. There they would undergo intravenous ingestion of massive amounts of Vitamin C in a liquid form. Already he was traveling up to the Western Addition once or twice a week where, in a half-remodeled Victorian relic, he was administering to a dozen or so patients. Some of the men could pay; some could not. The intravenous sessions could last up to three hours. A house may be a home but it's no clinic.

The doctor's voice was plaintive yet armor-piercing. "Paul, I need a support system, a backup. Can you help?"

I begged off. I told the doctor I needed time. I had a desk drawer full of proposals for alternative therapies, the latest from a man who just arrived from India trying to sell the AIDS world on the use of one's own urine. (Picture the howls at the Genentech interferon factory or in the bowels of the Lourdes of medicine, Parnassus Heights.) I told Cathcart I would call him back; he gave me two weeks for the stall and called me back. The caseload was straining his resources.

He asked me if I would like to spend some time with his charges, possibly in a back room Vitamin C intravenous setting. I agreed. A date was set for the following week — another reprieve. Maybe he wouldn't call back, but he did, and 5:30 the next afternoon we met in front of the Oak Street Victorian. Cars were racing down the hill to make it up onto the freeway in a nonstop dash. The wind was racing up the corridor, from behind, blowing my hair in my eyes. I was glad I had on my heavy leather jacket. It was cold. I felt conspiratorial, and somewhat faint of heart.

Stew took us through the two floors and eight rooms of his dusty, musty Victorian giant. I counted at least five black wood stoves — with one burning scraps of lumber in the front parlor. I wasn't in tune with the cheery welcome and hoisted myself into an old-fashioned barber's chair. It was all shiny metal and red leather. It was strong

and solid and afforded me a safe perch. The men began to arrive. I kept on my leather jacket and fortified myself with my pad and black-tipped pen.

I was introduced to the men one at a time, less concerned with their names than with their appearance. Some looked well; some looked gaunt and ravaged. The smalltalk was not easy for either side. The sick men were not used to giving their identities, their background, their medical histories to a nibbling reporter. Neither was I comfortable asking questions about the most private of privacies to exploit them and export them for publicity that would help these people.

The men assembled in that twilight room beside a roaring fire were not the variety who wore their sexuality on their sleeve. For everyone, still hanging over the AIDS mystery is a whiff that somehow AIDS is associated with sex practices *de trop*, with dirty sex, with too much sex. After all, it is the supposed promiscuity of Gay men that deranges our straight friends and enemies. And the factors that relate strictly to a medical emergency get lost in the blood-laced smoke. The shame and scandal of it all was not lost on these victims.

Jeff, who had discovered his first KS lesion two months ago,

One would quiz the other, "How many grams?" "When I was toxic." "What is your bowel tolerance?" "My 'burn' varies and I upped that amount." "Orthomolecular..." "Zinc." New words, strange words, yet all a dialect of hope.

"Each patient has a window," Dr. Cathcart was saying, both to me and his charges. He wove in and out of the exchange, explaining, counseling, supporting.

As my friend Bill Upton began to tell of what he was going through, I noticed that Jeff had moved over to the couch and the doctor was examining some suspicious skin disruptions on his upper arm.

Stew, who has his KS in remission — or at bay — through his total devotion to Vitamin C therapy was talking with Kim, who is suffering from a disorder of his blood platelets. Kim had just gone through plasma pheresis (removing all his blood, spinning it about to remove — God knows what and pumping it back in); he wished he hadn't. Bill had trouble speaking because a throat infection had made his tongue swell.

I slipped into part of the background of the darkening room, as the men ploughed on in an animated conversation. Two hours had passed. Stepping down from my chair, I shook each one's hand, wishing them well. The last hand was Jeff's. I held it and covered it with my left hand. In wishing him well, to myself I wished upon a star. In another time and place I would have wished him into my arms. But we no longer live in a Gay world where dreams come true...

I left them still talking. Stew had added more lumber to the fire.

It had grown dark — the later rush hour traffic continued to plunge down the last yards of Oak Street. What had I just been through, I wondered. It didn't touch me then, as I had another meeting to go to. Whatever it was, it does now, for as my pen falters, stalled with an imagination at idle, tears well in my eyes.

The next stop, the meeting

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Ascorbate Support Group

Dr. Cathcart wants to set up a support group for those Gay men with AIDS who elect ascorbate therapy. What he seeks is some kind of cross between AA and a blood donor center.

He needs a place where men with AIDS can go for intravenous sessions; a clinic setting. The clinic needs staffing by an RN and counselors. Cathcart has found that with ascorbate therapy partakers need continued support and backup. The dosage must be constantly upped or lowered, repeated every so many hours. He needs funds to pay for whatever the clinic will cost to open and operate.

He will train whatever volunteers come forward.

Pride Foundation has offered itself for whatever it can do or however it can be of service. So too, Walter Mellon of the San Francisco AIDS Fund said his group are enthusiastic and willing to help. Dr. Richard Hamilton has offered his Buena Vista Clinic.

The Ascorbate Support Group will need an organizer, an organization and volunteers. It will also need cash. Those wishing to support the group may contact the San Francisco AIDS Fund, 1547 California Street, SF 94109 (441-6407) or Pride Foundation, 890 Hayes, SF (863-9000).

Looking directly into my eyes, he said in a lowered voice — a little boy's voice now, "Sometimes when I pull up the cuff of my trousers, I say to myself, 'Maybe it will have gone away.'"

The armor of my high metal chair and strong leather perch had been pierced. But I was not there to be breached, and I spun myself to the right so as to be facing Dr. Cathcart.

Each man in turn discussed his illness or illnesses and his use of ascorbate. They compared notes and dosages and reactions.

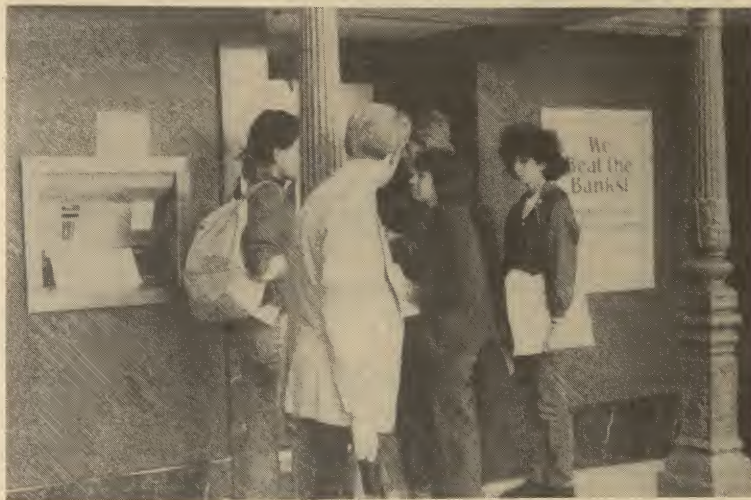
was an AIDS forum on closing the Gay male playpens. Oncologist Dr. Donald Abrams opened his number with, "Last night I lost two patients. I have just come from the bedside of a dying man."

And where had I just come from, I wondered?

And what had I left there amid this band still lusting after life? In their eyes, the fire of life still burned, still flickered.

May we all serve them for a while, staving off the darkness.

State Shuts Down Castro Thrift



Castro Street's Western Community Money Center was locked up tight Good Friday. State declared the company on the rocks. (Photo: Rink)

Last Friday many Gays were shocked to find that the doors of the Western Community Money Center at Castro and 18th had been closed by the state.

A steady stream of worried looking depositors nervously read a five-page legal document taped to the front door. It said, "Order Taking Possession of Property and Business," stamped by the California State Department of Corporations.

Depositors learned that their money is now held for a minimum of 90 days. Though the money is insured up to \$50,000, the money will not accrue interest.

Western Community Money

Center, once a fast-growing financial services company, was closed by the state because of its mounting financial problems. The center is a subsidiary of Western Community Financial Corporation which owns several financial ventures.

The company began in 1981 with approximately \$7 million in deposits and grew quickly. In 1982 the company opened the Castro Street office in the spot which formerly housed the original Midnight Sun, a legendary Castro bar.

Western Community gained depositors by offering interest rates that were, in some cases, almost double the rates offered by banks and savings and loan

institutions.

Throughout the weekend people approached the banks windows to read of the closing. A state official said the Money Center had lost about \$8 million as of last Friday. He stated a primary reason for the failure was the inability to invest the money properly.

STATE ADVISES DEPOSITORS

According to the business reporter from the *S.F. Chronicle*, depositors will face a delay in retrieving their deposits. They are protected but sorting out matters will take time. The California Department of Corpora-

tions will begin sending out claim notices to depositors early next week.

Western Community Money Centers, based in Walnut Creek, had eight offices and was shut down because it failed "to cure its capital deficit."

In February the industrial thrift reported assets of \$113 million and liabilities of \$115 million. Things got worse since then, bank regulators said.

The state froze 12,000 accounts with \$90 million in deposits for at least 90 days or until, and if, the Money Centers are sold.

Three possible purchasers have been in discussions with assistant commissioner of the State Department, Jack Carlson.

Barring a sale, Carlson said the department would go ahead and file liquidation papers on Monday in the Superior Court of Contra Costa County. "The clock (on the 90-day freeze) will start running Monday," he said.

"But that doesn't preclude a subsequent sale. We can always stop the liquidation and sell the organization."

Deposits of up to \$50,000 are insured by the Thrift Guaranty Corp. of Century City. There are 74 industrial thrifts in the state with assets of \$2 billion. Thrifts, says the *Chronicle*, are allowed by law to make more consumer loans than savings and loan associations.

Carlson said there wasn't much a depositor could do until a complete accounting is made. "We'll be sending out claim forms next week," he said. His only advice: "Depositors should open a checking account someplace else."

Compiled by Allen White and Bay Area Reporter staff.

(Continued from page 1)

sion with a long and successful career as an interior designer. He lived in San Francisco for 16 years and operates a 6-employee firm on Pacific Street. Gaylord comes from Mesquite, Texas, and his name often appears in the newspapers' social columns. He began his decorating career working for Gumps. Gaylord is known for his comfortable/traditional style; he has also designed wallpapers, hardware, and other products. He said, "I have tried not to have a trademark."

He redecorated the mayor's office using art, objects d'art, and furniture from the basements of the city's museums. His firm has worked redesigning the lower level of the Opera House. Currently he is working on a Pacific Heights 15 room hotel, The Sherman House, which will employ 18th century antiques.

Gaylord, who has been a long-time friend and supporter of Dianne Feinstein also serves on the State Prison Industries Committee. He says he puts in two days a week in the Sacramento office and once a month visiting the state's prisons. The committee's goal is to have 25,000 prisoners employed by 1986. Inside the state's institutions are some 30 industries from which the prisoners earn money or commissary credits. The work goes from making license plates to two weaving plants, to leasing farm land and producing meat and vegetables for the prison system.

For six years Gaylord wrote a syndicated column which appeared in 177 newspapers around the nation. The designer column ran in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

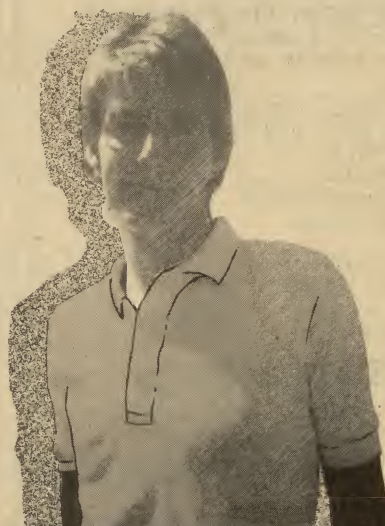
Gaylord's major interest will be in public art. He commented, "San Francisco has very little public art; there should be more and better pieces."

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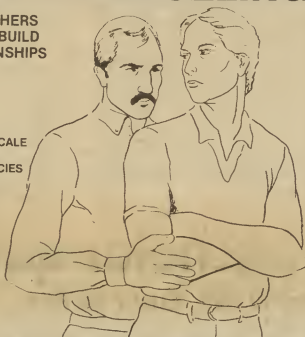
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Milkers Support Leaders on Baths

Hart Misses Endorsement; Cleve Jones Scratched for Central Committee

Members Drop Motion to Oppose Silverman's Sex Ban

by Bruce Pettit

Senator Gary Hart missed by two votes an endorsement for President in balloting by the Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club Tuesday night. Supervisor Harry Britt had made an impassioned plea for the members not to "sit on the sidelines while the future of our planet is being decided in our own state, and we're in a position to do something about that."

But the Milk club did succeed in casting a nearly full slate of endorsements for the Democratic County Central Committee in the June 5 primary election. It filled 19 of 20 positions in two Assembly Districts in which 66 people are seeking election. Club members followed to the letter the recommendations of their endorsements committee.

Raising an agenda item that was not formally scheduled, some Milk members sought clarification of the role of their leadership in the bathhouse controversy. President Carole Migden expressed the frustration of having her personal views projected as the club's views. The Milk club, which had had no position, then adopted a motion by its former president Bill Kraus: "support of our Gay leaders and doctors as they search for ways to reduce high-risk activity... and demand for an effective government education campaign."

BRITT BLASTS MONDALE

Britt opposed the increasing likelihood of former Vice President Walter Mondale's nomination for President "not only because Mondale is a blatant homophobe, which everyone knows, but also because there's not a snowball's chance in hell that Mondale can defeat Ronald Reagan."

A candidate for a Hart delegate to July's Democratic convention, Britt said, "I was surprised when our endorsement committee recommended that we not get involved in the California primary. There has never been in California before an election more important than this, and we've never been in a better position to influence that election." If Hart is seen as weak on Gay issues, "I hope you will trust that I and everyone in this club who supported Gary Hart is going to be as assertive as hell" on Hart.

The supervisor also attacked the third candidate in the race, Jesse Jackson: "If he had said about Gays what he said about Jews, we would not have anything further to do politically with anybody who supported him. You cannot support a candidate who runs around using language that is offensive to any minority in this country. I am sorry it happened, but he broke a rule so very basic that it goes beyond anything John Glenn did, and you know what a stink we raised about that."

Former Milk president Glenn Craig is also a candidate for Hart delegate, but current president Migden is campaigning to go to the convention as a Mondale delegate. Migden said later, "Harry seems to have an exceeding dislike for Mondale that exceeds what most people's impressions are."

Jack Trujillo, also a Mondale delegate aspirant, was startled at Britt's harsh words and insisted that Mondale had demonstrated support of Gay issues as early as 1972 before the Minnesota Democratic Party. Trujillo also discounted polls showing Hart

stronger than Mondale over Reagan, noting, "The polls have been wrong all year."

Although the total number of endorsement night ballots cast was 98, only 73 Milk members cast for President (requiring 44, or 60%, for endorsement); Hart had 42 votes, Jackson 13, and Mondale 7. Eleven members opted for no position on President.

COALITION POLITICS: THE INS

Milk endorsed five of its own priorities for the 20 Democratic Central Committee seats in two districts: Steve Krefting, Ron

an extended vacation, he gave his proxy to a DCCC member who was in a position to exploit inter-club rivalry within the Gay community."

Jones told the members: "I gave my proxy to Randy Stallings, who was president of the Alice B. Toklas club at that time, because I wanted to show the leadership of Alice that I could continue to work with them despite our differences of opinion."

Anne Daley, long-time party activist, felt Milk omitted a vital outreach for central committee: to senior citizens like herself. "There is nobody over 60 years of age on the list."

Milk member Jonathan Malone asked for the clarification of Migden's role in the city's Health Department restrictions of sexual activity in Gay businesses.

Migden replied: "It is never popular for a politician to make qualified statements about controversial issues... I certainly have been in favor of closure of the bathhouses" because doctors told her the AIDS death rate requires "strong measures to change behavior. (But) there has been some confusion on repre-



For Demo Central Committee Milkers endorse Dennis Peron (L.) and dump Harvey Milk original Cleve Jones. (Photo: Rink)

Huberman, Stan Criollos, Glenn Craig, and Migden. But continuing its philosophy of coalition politics, it also found room for Alicia Wang and Doug Chan (Chinese-American Democratic Club), Pansy Ponzio Waller (Latino Democratic), Jim Shoch (Democratic Socialists), Jim Wachob (District 8 Democratic Club), Lulu Carter (Roots, a Black Democratic club), Al Lannon (labor), Connie O'Connor (Alice B. Toklas Democrats), Marilyn Miller (Raoul Wallenberg Jewish Democratic Club), and Dennis Peron (Haight-Ashbury street activist). It also backed four incumbents who have been prominent party leaders: Agar Jaicks, Sue Bierman, Linda Post, and Jack Trujillo.

In fielding such a rounded slate, Milk succeeded where the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club failed earlier this month — ironic in that Toklas presented a much more public posture this year in that attempt.

THE OUTS

Notable in the Milk omissions, however, was Gay veteran activist Cleve Jones, aide to Assemblyman Art Agnos. Jones identifies himself as a Milk club partisan. But endorsement committee chair John Mehrling (a newcomer to San Francisco Gay politics), in a candid advisory letter to members, said Jones "has in the recent past gone out of his way to disassociate himself from our club and our positions. We are particularly concerned that last fall, while Cleve was on

sentation of an official Milk club position and my personal position."

Migden said that, when press accounts began attributing her personal views as the Milk club position, she retreated from further public statements. Some members indicated they appreciated the dilemma; others noted, however, that she is invited into community discussions precisely because of her title.

Catherine Cusic, whom Migden asked to preside over this portion of the meeting, commented: "A year and a half ago, we advocated a community education program that was thoroughly trashed then and is totally supported now."

Marc Virga, a former Milk co-chair on AIDS education, observed: "Despite what has been said, it is perceived in the community that the Milk club is in favor of closing the baths, and some of Catherine's comments seem to support that... I don't like being approached by someone on the street saying we've taken a position when I know I have never been part of any decision made by the club." He insisted it was time for a formal position.

Malone moved for club opposition to the Health Department's "ban on Gay sex" in Gay businesses. But Kraus — insisting that those favoring restrictions are not traitors and those approaching limitations are not murderers — urged: "Let's stop the rancor," and moved his substitute that eventually passed.

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WHEREAS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (A.I.D.S.) is a mysterious malady affecting gay men in disproportionate numbers to the rest of the population and urgently requires research and education as to its cause and prevention; and

WHEREAS, uncaring and unscrupulous theocrats have stooped to manipulating public fears about the A.I.D.S. problem in order to serve their own private political goals of eliminating first the gay baths, then the gay bars, then all gay businesses and organizations, and possibly the jobs of every gay person;

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VOL. XIV NO. 17 APRIL 26, 1984

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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

From New Girl on the Block to Grand Old Lady

Some perverse day this week, or another day last week, 14 years ago the *Bay Area Reporter* was hatched. As we begin our 15th year, almost any day in mid to late April will do as the anniversary. Some 10 years from now, should the paper survive to a 25th birthday, the exact date will become important, as most of us here today won't be around to remember. At this stage our memories are just slipping.

Each year this Ides-of-April springs for us an opportunity to pat ourselves on the posterior, bray about accomplishments, crow about changes, and thank those who are responsible for who and what we are today. Why flout tradition . . . ?

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Seems odd for those embarked on a revolution (or as we called ours, "a liberation") to find themselves the old-timers. But should one hang on long enough, or not know when to get off, one always ends up the old-timers — as hoary and crotchety as the institution they have erected . . . which after too long begins to resemble the institution they sought to pull down.

The *Bay Area Reporter*, one might say, has reached a venerable age in the lifetime of an alternative press. We are the oldest Gay show-and-tell in town. A status perhaps not commendable all by itself, but an index of survival, as it was never a field all to ourselves.

I recall some seven years ago when I could count eight Gay newspapers flourishing and floundering in the Bay Area. Bar owners worried aloud that the juke boxes weren't wide enough to carry all the copy. "Crap" was a word they liked to use, and who didn't refer to them as a "Gay rag" now and again. Our initials, B.A.R., fit where we were secreted behind or under the bars. One had to ask for us, for not every Gay bar was that liberated, flamboyant, or fearless. But then neither were we, as most of our writers wrote under pseudonyms. (If no other progress, that thorn we have put behind us years ago. Everyone on the paper is who they really are.) Washington, DC's ace reporter, Larry Bush, relates that we'd be amazed if we knew the big names in the movement who weren't real names at all — even editors of national publications . . .

For its first five years, the paper didn't even have an editor. It had a publisher, a typesetter, and someone who sat imperiously in the front office. The contributors, none of whom was a professional journalist, had no idea what an editor was, much less what an editor did. The early *B.A.R.*, was one long stream of gossip columns, political columns, and the occasional movie or show biz review.

All the same, nobody expected very much of the paper; it was one of a camp crowd, getting by on the skin of its capped teeth and the hem of its rayon slip. And most of the time its slip was showing. Like the others, it limped along. One issue would break even, the next would lose money. The debts malingered and mounted, and were always greater than the company's assets. In bleak times, in those early years, people loaned the paper money: sometimes to pay the printer (for they are people who never operate on credit). The writers wrote for free, and they did so for years and years. The writers for this paper have been legion. A good number are dead or scattered. Those early birds truly are an unsung band of heroes. And I thank them now — once again — for they gave this paper life, and if there was one thing the *B.A.R.* was long on, it was life. The *B.A.R.* was alive from its birth in a gloryhole manger. And like Auntie Mame, it lived high on the hog and low down at the heels. It never succumbed to the disease of the Gloria Uptons. No, we never had a sheared beaver coat nor had hot chocolates at Schrafft's.

If it's commendable, I don't know, but we never wrote a bad check and we always paid our bills. We fought — with dragon teeth — over the years with people who never paid us. And

(Continued on next page)

On Anonymous Sex

★ I regret the attempts to close S.F.'s gay bathhouses. Those spearheading the drive seem genuinely concerned about the health crisis of AIDS and its effects on us as a community, and as individuals, but these efforts are misdirected.

The thought that closing the bathhouses will eliminate, or even greatly reduce the incidence of AIDS is another example of the mythological thinking surrounding this disease. We are talking about a disease process with a specific mode of transmission which can occur as easily in your bedroom as in any bathhouse. If the only victims of this mythical thinking were the bathhouses this would be a small loss, but I wonder how many of our brothers who are victims of AIDS today once thought they were safe because they never go to the baths, never do poppers, never forget their vitamins, only date healthy-appearing men.

The AIDS crisis demands a more sophisticated view than the simplistic morality play explanation of this disease, that the baths are bad places that cause AIDS. It is our responsibility to our partners and ourselves to keep informed of the latest medical evidence available, to know the difference between safe and high-risk sex, and to act accordingly in any setting.

Recent characterizations of bathhouse patrons as "irresponsible," "anti-Gay," "on a death wish" are unfair and divisive. The fact is, a monogamous relationship isn't an option we all have and restricting one's sexual activity is fighting a basic human drive. People will continue to have sex with multiple partners in or out of bathhouses. Some may find the baths an easier setting to set, and keep within, their own limits of sexual activity.

My purpose isn't to promote the baths, but in fairness to these institutions, of the places where people meet for anonymous sex, they at least offer freedom from the harassment of police and queer-baiters. Soap, showers, and towels are provided for basic hygiene; AIDS information is prominently displayed. Some baths also offer VD testing or complimentary condoms; all baths should be compelled to do both.

Kenneth Castellano
San Francisco

Taking the Penis Elsewhere

★ Who are we trying to kid? I'm a reasonably stable gay man with a beautiful lover. Monday the announcement of "no sex at the baths" amused me. I don't normally frequent the baths, but I had one of my sex urges, and I went to the park — within 30 minutes I was satisfied. What I did isn't necessarily right, and probably very dumb, but it's beyond my control. I'm sure the next time I go to the park it won't take 30 minutes.

Name withheld for obvious reasons
San Francisco

Cure Worse Than the Disease

★ As an old bathhouse aficionado (I was inside the Folsom St. Barracks in '76 the night it burned down — Locker 411!) I'm stunned by the projected closure of San Francisco's baths, an institution that can be traced to the earliest years of this city. The huge Sutro Baths near Land's End was so popular with gays and straights alike in the first half of this century that a streetcar terminal was provided within the building itself! Indeed, the baths parallel civilized history; the Caracalla "Complex" of ancient Rome afforded fun and games for gay gladiators; and several hammams in Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, and Turkey have operated continuously for centuries (some smell like it!).

Those of us in our 40's and older can recall life without the baths and younger guys may well wonder what it was like. It wasn't better or worse — but vastly different. About 25 years ago, when gas was 30 cents a gallon or cheaper, one could make it 100 miles or more

to an urban gay bar every Friday or Saturday afternoon. If he played his cards carefully and showed "the right stuff" some guy might take him home for the night. Sometimes he would be invited to a private party, a revolving door affair that often lasted the entire weekend, with plenty of good food and space for individual and group involvement. Such environments still exist in rural America, and many enduring contacts were made through them. The baths in those days were populated mostly by hustlers, trolls, lice, mice, and vice (listed from bad to worst!) — a depressing scene that most gay men avoided.

All that changed in the '70s as an indirect spinoff of the drug culture from the late '60s. Needle freaks began to haunt gay bars to the extent that the hunk one took home might be a mainline junkie who would beat, rob, and perhaps murder his victim and then take off in the guy's car with half the house. Some gay men with a fetish for self-preservation therefore began to meet on neutral turf inside the bathhouses where one could look up possessions of value, take a long shower, indulge in sex, find another partner if the first one didn't cut it, crash, take another long shower, and return home physically and materially intact. San Francisco's streets were relatively safe in the early '70s and after the bars closed many would hoof through the Tenderloin and Broadway tinsel to Dave's in the Embarcadero, the hot bathhouse of that era. During the decade, other baths cashed in on this new-found popularity and proliferated closer to bar action. The result was the current bath culture — which now seems headed for extinction.

I would be sorry to see the baths close and fear that such a politically expedient "cure" might be worse than the disease that threatens them. The best baths provide excellent showers, sanitary facilities and security. Bars, beaches, bookstores, and bushes do not.

Hopefully, bath-oriented gay men won't be driven into the streets to forgo personal safety and confront AIDS-panicked police and rednecks — but this is 1984, isn't it?

Tony Thompson
Oakland, CA

How Soon They Forget

★ All the self-righteous "Letters to the Editor" writers may be too young or short-memory to recall that Larry Littlejohn was one of the first gay activists on the West coast and quite possibly has done more to secure equal rights for gays than any other of our gay brothers. How many of you courageous letter writers can boast of any activism — let alone the nearly 20 years of commitment demonstrated by Mr. Littlejohn?

While I vehemently disagree with his latest effort, and urge him to direct his obviously well-intended energies in a more constructive direction, may I also urge that we do the same. Instead of lambasting Littlejohn, an individual frustrated by the lack of concern of those who still jeopardize all of our lives by refusing to temporarily alter their promiscuous activities until this AIDS mystery is unraveled, let us pull together so that this bathhouse issue never gets as far as legislation.

You talk of Gay rights, Gay freedom, Gay pride. What of those who refuse to heed the warning about a fatal disease. Any freedom implies responsibilities. Gay rights means nothing if you are dead. So if you are angry at anyone, why direct it at Larry Littlejohn?

John Sherwin

Paranoia Afoot

★ There is a lot of talk these days about AIDS being a conspiracy. I think we should be careful not to ignore these people as being paranoid. The thing that frightens me is if this theory is true, they are succeeding. What would it hurt to check the theory out, or are we paranoid of what we may find.

Gary Pritchard
San Francisco

B.A.R.

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LETTERS

Other Scenarios

★ The April 5, 1984 issue of *B.A.R.* and the editorial by Paul Lorch was the most sensible I have experienced in view of all the blabbing and attention gays are demanding and hets are heaping.

However, I wonder how many people are really aware of the horrendous extent of the other Epidemic which is indeed a life and death health problem in the Bay Area as well as being concentrated in other places. Those statistics seemed to be grouped apart in a manner that does not reveal the shocking total. That epidemic is also the result of an exchange of body fluids and orifice sex.

I am referring to the rise in miscarriages, stillbirths, premature births, heart valves and lung defects as well as other organ and physical malformations, and varying degrees of mongolism categorically renamed for financial as well as other reasons involving pretentiousness.

While some have managed their own misfortune privately, unfortunately more and more funds have been diverted to minimize this necessity and the real wretchedness that underlies all such institutionalized attempts to handle the problem.

It is a known fact that some of this is due to breeding along the same blood lines, wanton behavior and sexual diversions of perfectly normal people whom the sight of an infant turned blue and gasping for breath in an incubator while hooked up to plastic tubes and electrodes may repel, yet is considered some kind of achievement. So, missing limbs, blindness, all kinds of paralysis, partial or total, and the terrifying suffering of time-release cancers could actually be eliminated by someone laying a trip of social import on someone else.

What would I do? Well I certainly would not put a full page ad in a newspaper like BAPHR did suggesting that all of the foregoing can be laid at the doorstep of some husband performing buggery on his wife or exchanging semen, ovary secretions, blood, urine, and possibly feces. Mercy! Nor would I be so insane as to express such an obvious conclusion that what is already a life and death matter is really a life and death matter. I think *B.A.R.* is brilliant for allowing such curative measures to be expressed and hope payment was accepted. As all great advice has already indicated, "With all such insipience as is quite common — who can lose?"

What would I do? I'd recommend that a rubber be fashioned that also properly fits the human tongue with respect to size and so forth and doesn't immediately start to rot (all defs.) on contact with lipstick, crisco and other oily secretions. Naturally I would prescribe it be worn at all forms of meals, appetite-wise and especially symposiums. Also, that it be periodically removed and examined under an electron microscope and a picture of the resulting miniaturizations should be published by the SF Newspaper Guild publications while being held for display by eager beavers such as Messrs. Shilts and Littlejohn.

William (Bill) Smith
San Francisco

Responsibility

★ While I agree in principle with Doctor Schram's letter of April 19, and agree especially when he states in paragraph four, that "ultimately each individual is responsible for himself," it seems to be that that is only 50%. The other 50% ought to state that he is then responsible as well to the person with whom he engages in sexual activity.

Karli Bernstein,
Oakland

Bathhouse Patron

★ Concerning the issue of bathhouse closure, I have been a bathhouse goer for ten years. During the first years the excitement of hot men and all the tricks, real or in fantasy, were very fulfilling and the loss of much of this now is depressing indeed. But I still go to the baths and have a good time and have noticed a great change on the part of bath owners and patrons. All are much more careful and guarded now.

I am firmly opposed to bathhouse closure on several grounds and I honestly believe that our community can be responsible enough to keep our play places open for safe, creative and enjoyable sex. If we cannot ultimately be responsible, then perhaps Feinstein and Silverman may yet be taking the doors off the cubicles. Can anyone imagine this getting to the point that Feinstein and Silverman open up a carpentry firm under their names? Of course their model might well be Jesus of Nazareth, also a Jewish carpenter.

Richard Diterwig
San Francisco

Mental Over AIDS

★ Re: The Letter Column in the March 29 *B.A.R.* Gordon Tresback suggests Gays use AIDS as a weapon in a biological war on Straights, Richard Wellner suggests sending specimen samples to the Governor to protest the veto of AB-1, and Paul Angora thinks AIDS is a government plot to destroy Gays. Is there a disease affecting our minds as well?

David Fink
Concord, CA

Traitors List or Hit List?

★ Your "hit list" of gay leaders is an insult to the gay community regardless of where one stands on the bathhouse issue. Many of the people on your "hit list" (Carole Migden, for example) have worked tirelessly at great personal cost for the good of the gay community and had the courage to struggle over difficult decisions.

These leaders have agonized and suffered and gathered all the information they could before deciding to support a position that is dictated by medical evidence which you have chosen to ignore or minimize.

Whatever your stand on the bathhouses, you have no reason and no right to cast aspersions on leaders such as Carole Migden, Harry Britt, and others who have shown themselves over many years to be dedicated to gay rights and are willing to make difficult decisions in the midst of a controversial and deadly health epidemic.

Cristina C. Arguedas
Berkeley, CA

ED. NOTE:

1. Dr. Silverman told me himself he did not have the medical evidence, but he now had the Gays who would have him make his move. The closings would be done at their bidding.

2. Prior to 1940, Marshal Petain did great things for France. After that he was the prime traitor to the Resistance. In 1945 he was stripped of every honor and set aside in disgrace.

3. As we viewed the events, we had every reason in the world to "cast aspersions" on the gang.

P. Lorch

Looking for Trouble

★ The banning of sex in the bathhouses can only be termed a grave mistake. As stated in the 4/9/84 edition of the *Chronicle*, no other city in the nation has even considered implementing such a ludicrous law. Dr. Silverman should realize it's not where men have sex, but rather who we have sex with that causes the spread of AIDS. He should also be ashamed of telling the representatives of the gay community one thing and then doing another.

Something else The City officials should be reminded of is the march which is scheduled for the day before the Demos come to town. With an estimated 100,000 gays and our supporters a Stonewall Riot far exceeding the original one in New York in 1970 could very easily take place, if but one bathhouse or one or more of our civil rights is threatened.

I'm sorry I can't sign my name, but I'd be fired from my job if my supervisor should by chance read this letter in your paper. Of course, if the Gov. had signed AB-1, as he should have, this couldn't happen.

A City Resident

Bluefish

★ My lover and I went to see Last Summer at Bluefish Cove. Most of the audience were women. Why? I don't know. Just a fact. I really didn't care because I felt comfortable, but did take notice.

This play is wonderful. It's funny, warm, bitchy, loving and silly. It was about love, friendship, death and life. Very human. It just so happened the characters were Lesbians — could have been anybody.

For a moment or so, in this day of fear, paranoia and disparity (so we think), the human spirit swept over and through the audience. I didn't want to leave the room. I grasped my lover's hand with urgency and tenderness. Corny? Maybe. But that's what happened and that's how I felt.

J. C. Cox
San Francisco

Too Much Gay

★ Finally, I think, Gay people have OD'd on being Gay people, and perhaps now it's time to just be people.

A Casual Observer
Cazadero, CA

Alternate Sex

★ The closing of the baths doesn't affect me one way or the other. If I'm in the mood for indiscriminate sex, I can just stay home and "choke my own giant python" (all right, "cuff my own hamster"). However, if Silverman dares even try to shut down Haag-Dazs or The Latest Scoop . . .

Strange de Jim
San Francisco

LL Realities

★ Nobody could truly doubt Larry Littlejohn's past community efforts and involvement; but Andrew J. Betancourt's letter of April 19th ("Friend of Littlejohn") was so pro LL that it was ridiculous! This is 1984, not 1964. If Littlejohn et. al. can't handle reality, they should stick their heads in sand and their royal asses in the air!

H. Levy
San Francisco

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VIEWPOINT

(Continued from previous page)

more than enough we subsequently saw in court. One thing I've learned along the way (and worth passing on) if one ever hears a businessman railing against a Gay newspaper about its stand on this or that or how awful they are, ask yourself a question: "I wonder how much money he owes them over which he's looking for a reason not to pay?"

Newspapers came and went, mostly went. Some abandoned San Francisco, some publishers died, some went under, while others went bankrupt.

And as the years passed, we dug our roots deeper and deeper, never aspiring to more than we were. We awoke one day to realize that we had built a house of brick. The houses of straw had blown away, other bamboo efforts came, fluted, and faded in the stiff wind. Not everyone was happy with the *Bay Area Reporter* having moved from beachhead to occupation forces, from partisan sniper to coastal artillery. But all that goes with the territory. With the deep foundations we also learned to build hard hats.

Sometimes we wonder — not if the paper's success will spoil us — but if we will survive its success.

Paul Lorch

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LETTERS

Whistle Incident

★ Just to set the record straight, I have a little piece of info to add to the courageous efforts of the "whistle-blowers" in reference to the incident on State and Castro Streets last weekend.

True, they attracted attention; however, they were not primarily responsible for the appearance of the Feinstein Fascists, who were woefully absent from the Castro district at that time (where are they when you "need" them?)

I "closed" the Twin Peaks bar that night, and a bunch of us were deciding on breakfast when we heard the noise up the hill. While some people (and there were quite a few) milled about, I dashed down to the Metro telephone and dialed 911, only to find a fellow brother had gotten the same brilliant idea. We both figured that two calls are better than one and dialed separately.

After that, I went back to the front door of the TP and banged on the door yelling for someone to call the police. One of the staff members did, and it took another three minutes before action was taken.

I do not type this letter to the community for praise or credit but to point out that it takes more than whistle-blowing to protect our asses from the thugs and other parts of the homophobic society, which includes the "persons in blue" who pose as our protectors. (It reminds me of a secretary in my office, who, when you wanted something done — as she was filing her nails — would utter, "You want something? I'm busy!!!")

(I might mention the Black and Italian officers who have nothing better to do on a busy weekend night but sit off the corner of Mission and 16th Street and ticket left-turners — you know who you are. Real hot horse manure, those two are, and that's not all.)

More to come,

J.C./S.F.

P.S. Thanks God for Paul Colstead, Diane Christiansen and Randy Schell!!!

London Invite

★ I have recently been able to obtain a copy of *Bay Area Reporter* (Feb. 2, 1984) and I feel I must write to you and say "cheers" for such a good paper! I really enjoyed reading it, and in doing so, brought back many happy memories of the time I was able to spend in the San Francisco area some years ago.

At that time I had two good friends with whom I stayed. However, over the years we have lost contact, and now I am sure they have moved East.

I should love to repay the kindness these friends showed me, and this is my main reason for writing.

I would very much appreciate you helping me find some friends who are thinking about spending time in London during the coming summer. I am able to offer some accommodation in my apartment, and also I would be happy to show friends around London, e.g. all the usual tourist places — and some "others" as well!! I would be quite happy to accommodate people at any time.

I am thirty-four years old, 5'11" tall, dark hair, moustache, slim build, and boiling over!

My other interests are: art and art galleries, theatre, cinema, travel, and generally enjoying life.

Thank you for all your help!!

Peter J. Stott
89 Canning Road
Wealdstone, Harrow, London
England HA3 7SP

Duke About Duke



★ With all due respect for my friend Wayne Friday, the suggestion in his column that gay Republicans should register their opposition to the governor's veto by deserting the Party is a hollow gesture and hardly in the best interests of the gay community. Certainly it would be a great personal relief for myself and others similarly situated to just give up and walk away. But it would also be a collective act of irresponsibility and a wholesale abdication of our obligation to serve the community to the best of our ability.

The lesson of the veto is that we need more, not fewer, gay Republicans. When one is right it is more noble to stand and do battle than to steal away in the night. Anyway, if we all became Democrats politics would be very boring, and poor Wayne would not have us gay Republicans to kick around anymore.

Duke J. Armstrong
San Francisco

Who Lost AB-1?

★ Re: March 22, 1984, letter of Thomas Edwards.

Mr. Edwards' comments on the governor's veto of AB-1 are dishonest.

First, the bill was vetoed not by Sister Boom (sic), Dykes on Bikes, or by Britt and Migden but by a

Republican Governor named Deukmejian who has a consistent and unwavering record against gays in a state Republican party dominated by the far right).

Second, if the governor had been Democrat Bradley the bill would have been signed (LA having a similar law in force).

Mr. Edwards would shift the responsibility for this veto to those groups with which he does not feel socially or politically comfortable, shifting the blame for the oppression to the victims.

The simple political fact is that the margin of victory for Deukmejian over Bradley can be explained by those "gay Republicans" such as Edwards. It is squarely their responsibility AB-1 is not law, and it is time for Edwards and the "gay Republicans" to accept that responsibility.

Jerry Jansen
San Francisco

Germ Warfare Theory

★ This is my theory of the AIDS phenomenon:

1. Gays started to become a real visible, viable political force after Stonewall in the late 1960's and the early 1970's.
2. The election of Harvey Milk to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in the mid-1970's confirmed this.
3. The defeat of the anti-homosexual Briggs Initiative, Proposition 6 in 1978, showed the homophobic, straight, white, male, authoritarian bureaucracy that the lesbian and gay movement was a well-disciplined, organized political force to be reckoned with.
4. The defeat of Proposition 6 prompted the assassinations of Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone. The assassin, Dan White, was given an absurdly short prison sentence as a reward and is now free.
5. When the assassinations created a martyr out of Harvey Milk and caused the gay movement to grow stronger instead of suppressing it, a new diabolical chemical form of anti-gay warfare was introduced... AIDS.

Gay people have been sexually promiscuous for years, but now all of a sudden since 1979, there is this acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Why didn't this immune deficiency appear ten years ago, twenty years ago, or even thirty years ago? For the bewildered, a media blitz of propaganda has been propagated by the gay oppressors to answer that. They say homosexual men, intravenous drug users and Haitians get it. Now mainstream America can compare gay men with serious drug addicts and Haitians who conjure up the image of voodoo-crazed occultists dancing in a frenzy, swinging bloody chickens over their heads.

It is now 1984 and the personal and political impact has been felt. Half-truths and speculation reign. Even the name AIDS itself is misleading. It means acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Anybody who has had a cold or flu has had an immune deficiency. Your immune system was not strong enough to combat the cold or flu germs and you became ill. Technically speaking then, anyone who has had a cold or the flu has had AIDS. What the gay community has been infected with is called Kaposi Sarcoma and Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma or Pneumocystis Pneumonia. Those terms are too complicated and unpronounceable for the general public so a simple catch word (no pun intended) is used: AIDS. For the last five years the media has hammered out AIDS=GAYS, GAYS=AIDS, etc., etc.

Could this disease be caused by deliberate tampering by a germ warfare research project on a convenient scapegoat population as the Gay community as I have suggested? You decide. It will not have been the first time such a thin has happened. A strange virus was spread above the San Francisco Bay in the 1950's to study the effects on human beings which the U.S. Government denied until twenty years later. Remember the nerve gas leak in Tooele, Utah in the mid-1960's which killed hundreds of sheep and deformed many of their offspring? It really happened and was also denied by the U.S. Government until it became so obvious that they could no longer deny it. California has several big U.S. Government backed corporations working on secret weapons projects as well as germ warfare research right now. There are several other such projects scattered throughout the United States.

Mike Casidy
San Francisco

AIDS Organizations — Getting Your Shit Together

★ As a person with AIDS since December 1983, realizing that most people who have had AIDS since that date are dead, but with the help of good doctors and close friends, I am very lucky to be alive. In the last few months on an average of two people a week that I've known have died in this city, and across the state.

There is a huge amount of work to be done. This is not a social disease. It is death taking our brothers away in every part of the world. In God's name, help save us in your organizational efforts. Don't make us your victims.

If there are other AIDS people who feel the way I do, please write your local organizations and let them know how you feel.

Tom Wicker
San Francisco

LETTERS

Swan Song



★ This is supposed to be my swan song.

I can't get it up any longer — my last rebuttal to your paper and all its fulfillment. As it appears that I am (we are all) in the pangs of re-birth, I'll accept it, but doubt I'll be a Born Again Writer.

To all the fans in Frisco, (that was a strong wind I felt today, and cold) I should advise you to keep your cool, just order my limited edition of "Letters to the BAR;" Gay Graphics.

In parting, (hint! hint!) it was always my favorite trip — walking up to you in a bar to say "Let's do it again, like we did last summer."

Of the many games I played with you CHESS was often the best — when I succeeded in driving your Queen back into her hole. Tu tu my friends and farewell, forgetful.

Steve Perkins
San Francisco

Grunhilda

★ Things that annoy Ms. Grunhilda Fussbudget (moi):

1. The Governor's veto of AB-1, of course.
2. Miss Eddie Murphy. She should get over herself, that one.
3. This insane attempt to close the bathhouses. You think that's the answer to AIDS, folks? Think again. Better yet, think at all.
4. Letitia's Restaurant. They had the nerve to tow Grunhilda's car from the Happy Boy parking lot at 11 o'clock one morning, long before any soul in his or her right mind would think of eating one of Letitia's old burritos, and Grunhilda had to pay \$50 to get it back.
5. The way this certain person grunts at Grunhilda's gym. Grunhilda is not impressed, honey.
6. Heavy metal rock bands. Grunhilda has seen the "Masters of Metal" commercial on TV, and she shudders to think that anyone could possibly enjoy listening to music produced by a group naming themselves after an Iron Maiden. Iron Maidens are not nice things. Furthermore, Grunhilda is concerned that the 14-year-olds who idolize these aging queens will develop the most abominable taste in Ozzy. You wanna look pretty? The Go Go's are pretty. Dr. Z. Osbourne is not.
7. Drivers who wait until the last possible moment to merge when they had the opportunity and the duty to do so long before.
8. Lousy tipsters.
9. Persons with no sense of humor.

Other than these few items, Grunhilda is perfectly happy with her lot, and she appreciates the opportunity to get these things off her rather imposing and well-proportioned chest.

Grunhilda Fussbudget
San Francisco

Reply to the Spy

★ Re: Spy in our midst — Letters, 4/05/84

Who needs a spy? We are not a clandestine or subversive group, but rather plainly there for all to see and, for those capable, to communicate freely with.

I congratulate you on your comprehensive, in-depth investigative research. But, I beseech you, sir: don't tell anyone all those dreadful secrets that we have tried to keep for so long.

Should anyone uncover our voting record on such props, as 8 and 13 among others (your balls are surely made of crystal). Or that we really endorse the concept of freedom of assembly AND speech. If the opposition should discover that we are compassionate enough to have initiated the Milk/Moscone marches to honor BOTH men. Should people find out that we have "our own" papers to keep us informed and advised, since the *Ex. Chron.*, among others, do not represent gay issues due to rigid editorial control. Well, who can tell just what diabolical plan we have up our sleeve next?

Turn in your raincoat, dark glasses, and beads, you're all through — and always remember: Dan White was straight!!

Alan Post
San Francisco

P.S. Since you read the *B.A.R.*, do you look at the pictures and do a little hand work perhaps???

Sutter's Response

★ If Mr. Jim Stutz (letter in *B.A.R.*, April 12) stood in the cold rain from 2 a.m. the day the Closet Ball tickets went on sale, he too would have the tickets he desired. As it happened Sutter's Mill, The Mint, Raggs employees were the best organized, and secured seats for our seventy-five plus employees, relatives, lovers and customers. All of the tickets we purchased were pre-paid for and not resold for profit. This purchase was organized through the diligence of our employees.

We have two hopeful contestants entered and several employees are involved in the production numbers as choreographer, entertainers, dancers, etc. This will be the Seventh year we have had contestants entered and our employees and customers have been big supporters of this function over the years. We didn't cry during those early years when we were not as well organized as other groups and we took those seats that were left. If Mr. Stutz has a suggestion of how to better sell the tickets I'm sure Robert Michael Productions would be open to consider it. I'm sure Bob G. doesn't want to stand in line again next year either! It was not a pleasant experience for anyone but some determined it was well worth it.

In reference to Mr. Atutz's statement of "private profit-oriented affair" he should be ashamed. Robert Michael Productions last year made an extremely generous donation of all Closet Ball proceeds to the AIDS/KS foundation and we salute him for this generous offer. The Mint will be closed this year as it was last year during the hours of the Closet Ball. Sutter's Mill turned down a dinner of 150 people from the International Gay Travel Agents Association for this evening so that we could all attend the Closet Ball.

Timothy Sockett
Owner-Sutter's Mill/The Mint/Raggs

Bar Helps

★ I would like to take the time to let the community know about a small neighborhood bar in the Castro which recently "came thru" for one of their regulars with AIDS. On super-bowl Sunday they came up with over \$700 and on St. Patrick's Day they came up with \$1000. Not only did they help him financially, they brought his mother here from New Orleans just five days before his death. All funeral arrangements were taken care of before sending her home. Linen was purchased for everyone in the Shanti address that he lived in. Just another great gesture from a small but bigger 18th Street bar — The Men's Room.

Rocky Rockwood
San Francisco

Good Time

★ This is a "thank you" letter.

Sometimes Gay life in San Francisco leaves me feeling rather cynical. Last night (Saturday the 21st.) I got a pleasant reminder that this city's old magic isn't dead yet. Rawhide II's anniversary party was soul lifting. Rose Maddox and a great backup band (with a cute fiddler who can back up in my direction any old time) put on a shit-kickin', unpretentious, good show. The mood and the music was high energy and low glitz. But what really got my defenses down was the lack of attitude and general bullshit from the men and women who were there to party. It was like 'way back when we were all queer brothers and sisters, before everyone become seriously "gay."

Thank you, Rawhide, Rose, band, and company. You made me remember how good it feels to be queer (and happy to find a place full of relaxed, friendly people).

Rick Leathers
San Francisco

Cat Trouble

★ It seems that cats can spread AIDS. Three reasonably well established facts lead ineluctably to that conclusion, although no cases can, as yet, be attributed to cats as a source of contagion, nor have public health officials or theologians yet raised the possibility, at least in public discussion.

Consider the facts.

1. Blood products contaminated by the AIDS agent can spread the disease from a blood donor to a blood recipient.
2. Needles contaminated by the whole blood of a Person-with-AIDS can spread the disease to a subsequent user.
3. Cat-Scratch Disease, a rare bacterial infection of the lymph nodes which produces AIDS-like and Hodgkins Disease-like symptoms, can spread through even superficial scratches from the claws of a cat or kitten. The skin need not even be punctured for the infection to occur.

Now, cat and kitty claws pick up minute or microscopic amounts of blood from their victims. If the victim is a Person-with-AIDS or a Person-Incubating-AIDS, the scratch may contaminate the animal's claws and infect his next victim.

One may reasonably doubt that closing the cat-houses will do much to halt or reverse the spread of AIDS among cat lovers.

A. D. MacDonald
San Francisco

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AIDS Interfaith Network Counters Fundamentalists

by Dion B. Sanders

Seven months ago, the Rev. Jerry Falwell, head of the Moral Majority, declared that AIDS was God's punishment "for the perversion" of homosexuality.

Recently, a group of fundamentalists, under the guise of delivering toiletries, entered Ward 5B at San Francisco General Hospital and began to preach essentially the same message to the AIDS patients there.

Hospital officials ejected them from the ward within minutes, but for some of the patients, it was too late; they had been bombarded with a message that only further worsened their own self-doubts, and heightened their spiritual anguish.

In response to similar episodes, the AIDS Interfaith Network, comprised of members from 13 Lesbian/Gay religious organizations, was formed a year ago.

In a statement made public at a press conference last March, leaders of the Network said, "Some of the people with AIDS we work with are not yet diagnosed and are terrified. Some are hospitalized one or more times and are fighting for their lives."

The statement said the need for a ministry to AIDS patients is especially acute because of the homophobia that the disease has engendered.

Connie Staff, co-convenor of

the Network, told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "In my experience with God, these people (fundamentalists) are very wrong, and they are inflicting damage that may be insurmountable to many people with AIDS."

The Network has issued a brochure entitled "Is AIDS God's Wrath?" that challenges the religious right's assertions. "... God does NOT punish through disease," the brochure states flatly, adding, "God's love is unconditional and total, far surpassing our understanding."

The Network cites the Old Testament story of Job, who was a very religious man who studiously obeyed the Mosaic laws but was, nevertheless, stricken with several diseases and plagues.

"To believe that AIDS is God's wrath on homosexuals is to charge God with wrong," the brochure states.

Staff said that members of the

Network have already engaged in debates with conservative religious leaders on this issue and express hopes that the Network "will serve as a model for similar organizations to spring up across the country — especially in the Bible Belt states, where they are most sorely needed."

Although the Network is currently operating only in San Francisco, plans are underway to expand to other Bay Area cities, but these plans are hampered by lack of funding, Staff said.

The 13 organizations in the Network are: The Parsonage (Episcopal), Dignity (Catholic), Affirmation (Methodist), Lutherans Concerned, San Francisco Friends Meeting (Quakers), Presbyterian Ministry of Light, Metropolitan Community Church, San Francisco Network Ministries (affiliated with the Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church), Evangelicals Concerned, United Church of Christ Gay/Lesbian Caucus, Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns, Orthodox Office of Peace and Justice, and the Healing Community of the San Francisco Council of Churches.

The Network operates under the auspices of the Shanti Project. Persons or organizations who want more information or who wish to donate time and/or funds to the Network can contact the Network at (415) 928-HOPE or write: AIDS Interfaith Network, 890 Hayes St., San Francisco, CA 94117. ■

Men's Clinic STD Screening

Have you been screened for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in the past 3 months? If not, the staff of the Men's Clinic at Health Center #1 would like to remind you that NOW is the time for those who were screened in January to be re-screened.

Remember, it is recommended that sexually active men be checked at least once every three months.

Screening is available at the men's STD Clinic at Health Center #1, located at 3850 - 17th Street. Clinic hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 1:00 to 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. ■

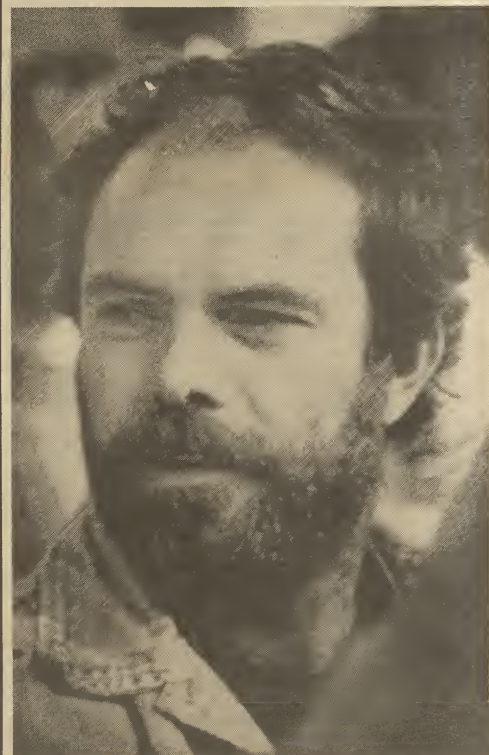
Band Auction

A special auction benefit for the San Francisco Band Foundation will be held on Saturday, April 28 at Trax Bar, 1437 Haight Street, beginning at 3 p.m. The Band Foundation is the umbrella organization for the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps, the San Francisco Tap Troupe, and the FLAG Corps. The auction will be held in conjunction with a beer bust sponsored by Trax's Gay Softball Team, and the Tap Troupe will furnish some classy entertainment. The afternoon promises to be festive, and all are invited to attend.

Celebrity auctioneers, including Bob Ross, Bob Cramer, Randy Johnson, Bob Decca, and Jose Sarria, will auction off a host of unique collectibles and rare treasures donated by Band members and friends along with merchants from throughout the community. MasterCard, Visa and personal checks will be accepted for payment so no one need miss out on that once in a lifetime bargain.

To donate items for the auction or to obtain further details, call the Bandphone, 621-5619, or contact Duke Armstrong, 543-0910. ■

AIDS Death Notices



AIDS fatality Col. Clinque, Michael Shiell. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Friends of Michael Shiell — also known in South of Market circles as Colonel Clinque — reported that he died April 18 of complications from AIDS. Shiell was sick for 8 to 12 months with Kaposi's sarcoma, Pneumocystis pneumonia, and meningitis. Friends said he also was ravaged by the effects of chemotherapy.

Shiell, 38, attended Mesa College in Grand Junction, Colorado. He worked as a master goldleaf and worked with *trompe l'oeil*.

Shiell was also a bartender at the Bolt and the Brig. He was a member of the Rainbow Motorcycle Club. He was treasured by his friends for his extraordinary personality. Said one, "We loved the way he made us laugh."



Tom Simpson of Lambda Funeral Guild reported the deaths of Lewis Jones (April 14, 1984) and Richard Falcon (April 19, 1984). Both men were memorialized at the Columbarium Chapel. ■

Atlas S&L Splits Stock, Honors Top Employees



Atlas Savings President Hal MowBray (r.) congratulates the first two recipients of the S&L's Employee Recognition Program: (l. to r.) Jim Stewart and Tod Howard. (Savage Photography)

Atlas S&L, the Gay community's on-going success story, followed through on a promise and launched a new employee recognition program this week.

Kim Cortright, the financial institution's marketing director and public relations director, reported that the Gay bank has received approval for its 3 for 2 stock split. Approval came from the California Commissioner and is effective April 20 to all stockholders of record at the close of business on that date.

Atlas stock was originally offered at \$12.50 per share just prior to the S&L's opening in November 1981, and the market value of the stock has currently risen to about \$26 per share. Since its opening, Atlas' assets have ballooned from \$2.5 million to nearly \$100 million. Profits for 1983 increased to \$1,010,680 (unaudited) from a loss of \$73,153 in 1982.

Board chairman John A. Schmidt attributes the savings and loan's rapid growth to "the strong nationwide support of the Gay community, attractive interest rates (Atlas' 18-month IRA accounts are rated as among the highest in the nation), and prudent lending policies and partnerships in selected construction joint ventures."

The value of the stock will now drop as there are more shares by 50%; the price as of April 24 was \$18.50.

Cortright also reported that employees Tod Howard and Jim Stewart have been selected as the first two recipients of the Association's new Employee Incentive Program. Howard, 25, who is assistant manager of the

Castro office, received the "Employee of the Month" award and Stewart, 21, a merchant teller at the Market-Duboce branch, was named "Terrific Teller of the Month."

The award winners are nominated by fellow employees and selected by the officers of Atlas. The criteria for selection of the monthly awards are: the employee's knowledge of the job, friendliness and positive attitude, cooperation with other workers, and overall contribution to the good of Atlas. Recipients each receive a \$25 cash award, are written up in the Atlas newsletter, and their names are listed on a perpetual plaque in the lobby of the main office.

"Much of the success of Atlas is due to the hard work and positive outlook of Atlas employees," said Hal MowBray, president of the savings and loan, "and we feel it's time to spotlight those people who bring something extra to their job every day."

MowBray continued, "In a small financial institution it's especially important for us to have friendly, efficient employees — it's one of the qualities that can set Atlas apart from the big banks."

The S&L's \$2 million headquarters construction at 444 Castro continues apace. A fall opening now seems likely.

Meanwhile the S&L is negotiating on downtown properties which will house a third branch. The target date for the Financial District branch is a summer month's opening, and rumor has it a Bush Street site is being considered. ■

Marks to Hold Town Hall Meetings

Senator Milton Marks will again hold two Town Hall Meetings on Saturday, April 28. The open forum of the Town Hall Meetings gives everyone the opportunity to raise questions and get answers concerning their government.

One meeting is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Western Addition Library, 1550

Scott Street, San Francisco. The other is from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Commission Room, San Francisco Main Library, Civic Center, San Francisco.

"I am expecting many San Franciscans to come and voice their concerns on many issues," said Senator Marks, "and I look forward to spending the time with my constituents." ■

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Hurry. These few remaining homes will be gone before the new year is very old.

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Convention Marchers Open Office, Make Demands, Seek Support

by George Mendenhall

An enthusiastic group of forty local Lesbians and Gay men are moving hurriedly to solidify plans for the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The march from the Castro to Moscone Center will be on Sunday, July 15, the day before the Democratic National Convention opens at Moscone. A goal of 100,000 participants is projected.

The group's office has opened at 2301 Market Street, at the intersection of Noe and 16th. The facility is three modern rooms on the second floor with ample window space on two sides. Public planning sessions and committee hearings are being held regularly.

Paul Boneberg, who co-chairs the new group with attorney Mary Dunlap, is now receiving a part-time salary to manage the event. He explains that the presidential debates have "made no mention of the oppression of millions of Lesbians and Gay men. We are determined that our issues be raised in a powerful and positive manner the nation and the world must note."

The march will begin at approximately 2 p.m. and concludes with a six-hour demonstration, speeches, and entertainment from a stage in front of Moscone Center. An earlier starting time is being sought, but police wish the Gay march to start at 2 p.m. in order to avoid a conflict with an earlier Labor parade on Market Street.

GAY DEMANDS

Demands to the Democratic Party and its candidates will be made during the demonstration. The march committee has mailed several hundred copies of a preliminary draft of demands to Gay groups across the country to get their suggestions.

The demands will include massive federal funding to end the AIDS epidemic, a presidential executive order prohibiting discrimination against Gay people in federal employment, passage of the national Gay rights bill, enforcement of current Civil Rights legislation, and an end to violent attacks on Gay people.

Women's rights are also stressed with a plea for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and the acceptance of the rights of women, including the right to have an abortion. Equality for visitation and child custody for Lesbians and Gay men is urged.

There are also demands that all "sodomy and solicitation" laws be repealed, that immigration and naturalization laws be nondiscriminatory and equal benefits for Lesbian/Gay relationships.

The group also asks for "necessary social services for Lesbian and Gay youth, seniors, disabled, prisoners, and low-income people with increased funding to federal aid programs and restoration "of those programs cut by the Reagan administration."

Endorsements for the march include the National Gay Task Force, the National Coalition of Black Gays, and the California Democratic Council. Local endorsements include the Democratic County Central Committee, National Women's Political Caucus, Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance, and the four Gay Democratic clubs (Milk, Stonewall, Toklas, East Bay).

Volunteers and financial contributions are both being sought by the planners. Committees include those planning demands, media outreach, finances, and logistics. As the march office is not always open, a 24-hour telephone answering machine has been installed (863-5005).



Convention Marchers move into their upper Market Street headquarters. (Photo: Rink)

New Law Gives Gays Voice in Health Care Decisions

by Jerry E. Berg, Esq.

A new California law, effective since the beginning of 1984, makes it possible for the first time to appoint someone to make decisions concerning medical treatment in case of physical or mental incapacity. This law authorizes the use of a "Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care Decisions" to make this appointment.

The new Durable Power of Attorney is particularly important for Lesbians and Gay men, since a lover or friend can be appointed an "attorney-in-fact" to make medical or other health care decisions. This appointment is legally binding on health care providers.

Under prior law, which made no such provision, lovers or friends were almost always excluded from these decisions. Doctors or relatives were favored in deciding medical treatment. Frequently, doctors were forced to make critical decisions without regard for input from anyone else.

This new law is especially important for persons diagnosed with AIDS, or other progressive, terminal illnesses. An attorney-in-fact can be appointed while the disease is in its early stages or remission, and will automatically take effect if the patient becomes incapacitated. Use of the Durable Power of Attorney could significantly reduce disputes over medical treatment among doctors, relatives, and lovers or friends.

The Durable Power of Attorney may also be used to declare a health care philosophy, e.g. a

willingness to undergo experimental or "heroic" medical procedures or the termination of life support systems which artificially prolong life. In addition, the attorney-in-fact may also be given the power to donate body organs in case of death.

The attorney-in-fact is prohibited from making certain decisions under the new law. These are commitment to or placement in a mental health facility, psychosurgery, convulsive treatment, sterilization, or abortion. Under the new law, the attorney-in-fact also cannot take any action which is illegal, contrary to the known desires of the incapacitated person or, where such desires are not known, is clearly contrary to the person's best interests.

The Durable Power of Attorney is revocable at any time and is ordinarily valid for seven years unless sooner revoked. If a person is incapacitated, the Durable Power of Attorney remains in effect until capacity is restored.

The new Durable Power of Attorney is a simple document to complete. You can obtain further information about it from any qualified estate planning attorney.

Pride Foundation Chooses New Officers

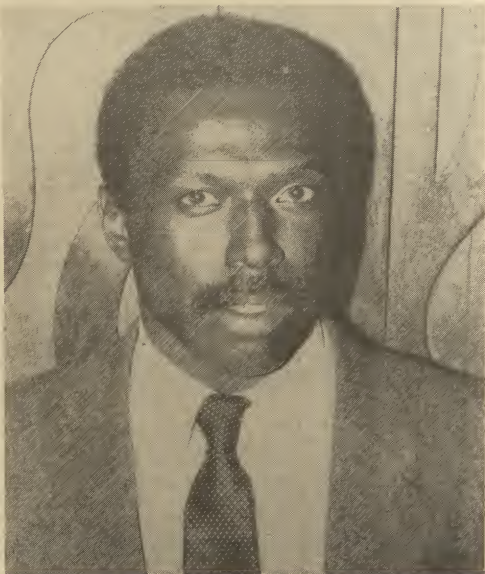
The Pride Foundation this week announced the results of its annual election held Thursday, April 19. Elected President of the Foundation's Board of Directors was W. J. Brandy Moore, as Vice President of Finance is Matthew S. Reed, CPA who will serve as financial officer of the group, as Secretary David B. Ward, and as Past President Larry Long who was retained to provide historical perspective to the Board of Directors.

The annual election also brought a reshuffling of the members of the Pride Executive committee. The Pride Executive committee is comprised of Brandy Moore, President, David B.

Ward, Secretary, Matthew S. Reed, CPA, Treasurer/VP Finance, Donald Coffinger, and Shirley R. Wysinger.

The Pride Foundation holds its Board of Directors meetings on the third Thursday, each month in the Pride Neighborhood Center located at 890 Hayes Street at 8 p.m. The building is a wheelchair accessible location and can be reached via the 22 Fillmore bus or the 21 Hayes. The Board of Directors meetings are open to the public.

Brandy Moore is the Administrative Aide to Supervisor Doris Ward and has been active in Gay Rights work for over 6 years.



Pride Foundation's new president, Brandy Moore. (Photo: Rink)

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Stock Market Columnist Trashed by Publisher for Being Gay

'Wall Street Journal' Scandal on Insider Trading Turns to Bigotry

by George Mendenhall

R. Foster Winans, 35, was fired earlier this month by the prestigious *Wall Street Journal* when he admitted that he had leaked confidential, inside financial information to investors in advance of publication. *Journal* readers learned about the Winans dismissal in the newspaper's own front page columns. Winans was a regular contributor to the *Journal*'s popular investors gossip column, "Heard on the Street."

Equally surprising to many *Journal* regulars was the inclusion of considerable irrelevant commentary about Winans' homosexuality. The article even included a sketch of Winans' lover, David Carpenter.

Why the normally staid newspaper chose to discuss Winans' sexual life was not made clear. Numerous readers wrote in a recent *Journal* "Letters" column that they could not see how such information was relevant in the explanation of Winans' financial dealings. One reader charged that the *Journal* was attempting to discredit Winans by bringing up his homosexuality.

Since the *Journal* could not find Winans at his Greenwich Village apartment, it published second-hand comments about him from friends and relatives, revealed information from his personnel file, and quoted *Journal* writers who were critical of his conduct. For example, he allegedly had "confided to friends that he felt he was being treated unfairly at the *Journal* because he is homosexual" and "he was reported to have said, 'I got involved with some wrong people. I've done something wrong. Very stupid. The big job now is staying out of jail.'" The *Journal* states that Winans has admitted his guilt.

The *Journal* detailed the Winans/Carpenter relationship, although Carpenter is not charged with any improprieties. Some excerpts:

"David Carpenter, 34, a former *Journal* news clerk, who has a homosexual relationship with Mr. Winans, is a key figure in the Security Exchange Commission's investigation . . . Winans and Carpenter are lovers. Mr. Winans recommended Mr. Carpenter for employment at the *Journal* . . . They live together, and Mr. Winans wears a gold ring given to him by Mr. Carpenter."

"Mr. Carpenter received

financial support from Mr. Winans and left the paper last May to go into business for himself . . . Mr. Winans and Mr. Carpenter have known each other since 1971, according to their *Journal* job applications, where each listed the other as a reference . . . Mr. Winans felt he was underpaid. He also complained of medical bills for Mr. Carpenter. According to relatives and friends, Mr. Carpenter contracted leukemia . . . Mr. Winans often complained of not being able to make ends meet. He canceled a planned European vacation last fall with Mr. Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter went by himself, ran out of funds and asked another *Journal* reporter in London to cash a check. The reporter called Mr. Winans, who said he would cover the check if it bounced."

It is alleged that Winans would give specific advantageous data about firms trading on Wall Street in advance of his publication of such information. If any investor could buy low, knowing that Winans would later publish the information that the firm was of greater value, the investor could later sell high and reap a considerable profit. Information could have been leaked about Getty Oil, Greyhound, Western Union, and nineteen other firms — leaked through several sources, not necessarily Winans.

Twenty-one firms mentioned in the *Journal*'s "Heard on the Street" column have been subpoenaed by the SEC. The investigation is part of a much larger federal inquiry into alleged "insider" leaks throughout Wall Street. The *Wall Street Journal* some weeks before the in-house scandal surfaced ran a major study and criticism of insider trading. It named names of persons accused of making profits from stock sales and purchases with privileged information. It detailed Security Exchange Commission investigations and



was particularly critical of corporate officers, their friends, and also brokers who profited from the practice.

NEWS BITS FROM THE GAY MEDIA CIRCUIT

New Head at GRNL

Washington, DC - Vicki Monrean, a 32-year-old Lesbian feminist and member of the board of directors of the National Organization for Women, has been nominated to succeed Steve Endean as executive director of the Gay Rights National Lobby.

Monrean is the D.C. regional director of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF and an assistant to former NOW president Eleanor Smeal.

Monrean was nominated by a

seven-member search committee that was formed immediately after Endean's resignation last October amid controversy surrounding his leadership capabilities and numerous attacks against him by David Goodstein, publisher of *The Advocate*.

Larry Uhrig, pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of Washington and a member of the search committee, said that he is "confident (that) the person we recommended is well-qualified (for the job)."

— *The Washington Blade*



THE GAY WEEKLY OF THE NATION'S CAPITAL
The Washington Blade

Joke at Roast Riles Bostonians

Boston - Joseph Casper, a member of the Boston School Committee, is under fire from Gay community activists enraged at a joke about AIDS that he made at a St. Patrick's Day roast.

Casper, whose district represents both conservative South Boston and the heavily Gay Bay Village and South End, said that he had noticed people wearing buttons reading "Pride and Prevention." The slogan referred to a drug-and-alcohol abuse prevention program, but Casper told his audience, "I thought they were talking about AIDS."

"In some parts of my district they talk about AIDS like it was the equivalent to the common

cold in South Boston."

Eric Rolles, co-chair of the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Action Committee, stated flatly, "That joke is not funny," and added that "such jokes appear funny only to someone who is insensitive to the ways in which this complex syndrome has affected the Gay community."

Casper refused to apologize for the remark, adding that since he said them at a roast, and went further by reciting jokes about Blacks and Italians, "Everyone from A to Zed, including the pope and priests and parish parishioners (Casper is a Catholic) got a little bit of the needle. That's what a roast is, right?"

— *Gay Community News, Boston*



Congratulations, San Francisco!

Thanks to all of you who are recycling, San Francisco has achieved the highest recycling rate of any large city in the United States.

If you are not yet recycling and would like to join in, the following full-time recycling centers are available to you:

Richmond Environmental Action
M-Sun 10-3
Anza & Collins (1 blk. W. of Masonic)

S.F. Recycling Buy Back Center
Wed-F 12-5; Sat 9-5
Cargo Way (near 3rd & Army St.)

Bernal Recycling
M-W-F 9-12; Sat 9-2
Farmer's Market, 100 Alameda

Golden Brands
M-F 10-12
255 Channel

Independent Paper Stock
M-F 8-3
350 Rhode Island

Reynolds Aluminum
M-S 9-4:30
401 N. Tunnel Brisbane/S.F.

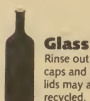
Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council
M-Sun 9-3
Frederick & Arguello (W. end Kezar Stadium)

Park Merced Recycling Center
M-Sun daylight hrs.
Behind Park Merced Supermkt.
near 19th Ave. & Camden

Golden/Sunset Curbside Recycling Program
34th & 43rd Ave. (between Ortega & Lincoln)

Golden Gate Disposal Company and Sunset Scavenger Company
Companies will pick up bundled & tied newspapers with the garbage

To receive a free copy of the *San Francisco Recycling Guide*, call 558-2361.



Glass
Rinse out and remove caps and lids. Metal lids may also be recycled.



Newspapers
It is not necessary to bundle newspapers. Please, no magazines or mail.



Cans
Rinse out cans. It is not necessary to smash cans but it helps save space.

Sarton, "Blood Sister" Project to be Honored at Fund Dinner

Poet/author May Sarton and the "Blood Sister" project of the Women's Caucus of the San Diego Democratic Club will be honored at the Seventh Annual Fund for Human Dignity Dinner, to be held at New York City's Plaza Hotel on Monday, May 14. Sarton will receive the Fund for Human Dignity Award of Merit, and the Humanitarian Award will be presented to Barbara Vick of the "Blood Sister" project. The recipient of the Howard J. Brown Award, previously announced, will be U.S. Rep. Gerry Studds.

Sarton, the author of twelve volumes of poetry, seventeen novels, and seven books of non-fiction, will accept the Award of Merit "for her contribution to the education of the American public about the lives of Lesbians and Gay men." Her most

recent work, a journal entitled *At Seventy*, has just been published by W.W. Norton.

The "Blood Sister" project was the first of its kind in the U.S. On July 16, 1983, over 170 women came to the San Diego Blood Bank to donate blood, both to replenish supplies which had been depleted when most Gay men were excluded from donating blood because of the AIDS epidemic, and to show support for Gay men from the Lesbian community. The blood drive was conceived and organized by the Women's Caucus of the San Diego Democratic Club. Since that event, other blood drives among Lesbians have taken place in cities from Los Angeles to Baltimore.

This year's dinner marks the tenth anniversary of the Fund for Human Dignity.

Club Owners Ready for No-Sex Rules Coming May 7

(Continued from page 1)

approving of sexual activity in licensed city businesses. Although some bathhouses are private clubs, they are legally public.

Accardi said that Silverman's new position was unacceptable, as "he has left no room for negotiation. We are now talking about confrontation." Since the bathhouses have been distributing condoms, Accardi suggested that the hundreds on supply be "dumped at City Hall and let them distribute them." However, this idea received a cool reception from those at the meeting.

Accardi said owners are faced with possible bankruptcy while finding it nearly impossible to fight back by filing lawsuits because thus far there has only been rhetoric and no specific rules have been adopted.

Silverman's AIDS coordinator, Gary Titus, said his boss now believes solo masturbation can be overlooked, but that mutual masturbation is questionable because when touching one person could have an open cut. In a recent B.A.R. interview, Silverman said that the use of condoms was also questionable because they might not be properly used. Gay health advocate Hank Wilson concluded that Silverman is "evidently still evolving a policy."

Ed Power, AIDS Foundation director, said the long-time educational program about "safe" sex is in a state of chaos. He said, "The result is that our whole educational program, which Silverman had supported, is being undermined."

SEX CLUBS/ARCADES

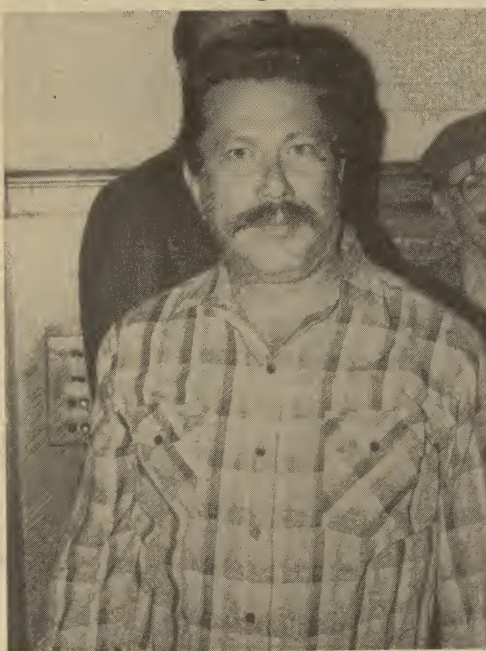
Sex-related businesses (sex

clubs and 25-cent arcades) will be regulated, but Agnost stated that he would begin to resolve that problem after the police and health departments have a public hearing on a new bathhouse proposal. He indicated that he did not yet know if licensing of such businesses, which are now only under general law, would be necessary. The attorney said "appropriate" legislation would be drafted. This would require public hearings by the Board of Supervisors, which would have to approve a new ordinance.

In the confusion over the bathhouse issue, some owners believe they have been misrepresented as the prime contact place where people are contracting AIDS. An estimated less than 5% of the Gay male community goes to bathhouses, and there is no published evidence that indicates that bathhouse contacts have resulted in AIDS. One bathhouse owner at the Easter Sunday discussion said people with AIDS should sue the city, as they are being "misrepresented as sleazy people who have been having multiple sex in dark rooms."

Bathhouse owners stated that although they educate the public with AIDS literature and distribute condoms, most sex-related businesses are doing nothing. One owner said, "And there is still a lot of cock-sucking going on in those places." Some criticism was also leveled at Gay bars that have "no AIDS literature or cocktail napkins that advertise safe sex."

Activist Hank Wilson suggested that volunteers leaflet Gay areas to let the public know which bathhouses are open. He said massage nights and "other gimmicks" could be started



Jaguar Book Store owner Ron Ernst finds his club under attack, again. (Photo: Rink)

while the bathhouse owners themselves plan a major advertising campaign. One bath owner said there is "a hysteria" with some customers inquiring about possibly being arrested at a bathhouse. Dr. Rich Andrews said that it is necessary to continue to educate and let people know what safe sex is.

FRUSTRATION

There was considerable frus-

tration and anger at the Rose meeting: Accardi said Silverman could have made his "no sex" announcement in order to confuse the Gay community and cut attendance at the bathhouses so they would be closed due to lack of business. The Sutro Baths' outspoken Bill Jones said he had thought of tacking condoms to the bushes at Buena Vista Park in order to bring attention to the fact that closed baths will not be distributing them.

"I deeply resent that we have to be regulated," John Lorenzini told the group. Lorenzini, who has AIDS, said, "We are being denied intimacy. If they are allowed to close the baths, what will they be closing next?"

Glen Gerber, San Francisco Baths manager, pleaded, "It is some God Almighty doctors and some Gay leaders who did this to us." Gerber chided those who stood with Silverman at his "no sex" press conference who have not been vocal enough since about their current opposition to the "no sex" policy. He said he would not be taking doors off the private rooms in his business and would meet the city authorities on the front steps.

RULES PROCEDURE

City Attorney Agnost said he is formulating the new bathhouse rules in consultation with the police department, his own staff, the health department, and doctors who are "AIDS experts." Included in the drafting of the new rules are police legal attorney Law Wilson, a Gay person, and Deputy City Attorney Dan Collins.

Attorney Wilson recently told the *San Francisco Progress*, "The Chief can impose new regulations after a hearing. They would require physical changes in the bathhouses, no cubicles for sex, more lighting. And they would be explicit in forbidding sexual activity..." After the rules are published, the owners would be given a period of time to bring their establishments into compliance. (Silverman explained earlier that Gay hotels and clubs with some steam facility would not be included, as "we would bry to close places where sex is the only activity.")

In 1973, the City Police Code was amended to permit the Chief of Police to act on his own to "make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations not in con-

flict with, but to carry out, the intent of this Article" in regard to the already-licensed bathhouses. He must have a public hearing first, but no new city ordinances are required. Currently, bathhouses must now meet all city requirements in the Building, Health, City Planning, and Fire codes.

Current code reads that the police and health departments shall "from time to time, and at least twice a year, make an inspection of each public bathhouse." Health inspectors currently make such inspections. Silverman states that this policy will continue. The health director explains that while inspections will be more regular after the new rules go into effect they will later be reduced. He stresses that no new inspectors will be needed.

The proposed bathhouse regulations (in the form of a rough draft) will be considered at a police/health public hearing where Agnost says medical experts and anyone else who wishes to speak will be heard. The rules will then return to Agnost and be reworked into a permanent document. Agnost explained that ALL 12 bathhouses and an estimated 24 other sex-related businesses would be regulated, not just those designated as being "Gay."

COMEDY & ST. PRIAPUS

Inserting some humor into the recent controversy, comedian Tom Ammann related last Sunday in his Valencia Rose appearance, "You know my friend Mario. He is so wild he thinks 'safe sex' is doing it with a net." . . . He also imagined a cop who came into a steam bath with his club, walkie talkie, gun, and flashlight — to discover a Gay male entertaining himself — "Looking up at the brute above him, he pleaded, 'Stop, or I'll shoot!'"

On the other side of the city, the controversial St. Priapus, a local church which stresses that sex combats evil, announced that it had installed an exterior glory hole for passing males in need of "completely anonymous, indiscriminate, and impersonal" sexual relief. Rev. Donald Jackson allows for safe sex also: "Some of our volunteers require rubbers to be worn."

Two area newspapers commented on the bathhouse controversy: The *San Francisco Progress* called Silverman's action overly mild, urging that he was coming up with "unenforceable rules" and that "it was a giant cop-out" that he did not close the baths. The *Oakland Tribune* urged that "safe sex is on the right track here, as it is with any sexual activity between adults who want to avoid unwanted results." It said some controls may be necessary now in order to reduce multiple sex behavior and pointed to the day when the risk no longer exists and "such behavior codes from the city will become unnecessary."

PROPOSED PLAN

What the Gay leadership of the city will now do about the bath/sex controversy is not entirely clear. The Gay physicians' association, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, and two Gay political clubs (Concerned Republicans and Toklas Democrats) have taken positions endorsing "safe" sex and chiding Silverman for his "no sex" policy. The Milk Democratic Club has taken no position on the Silverman policy.

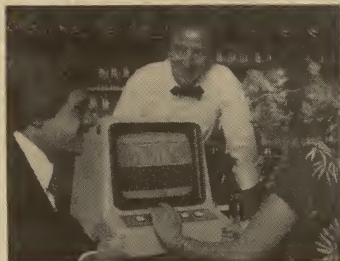
The group of 25 bathhouse owners and concerned Gay people meeting at Valencia Rose decided on these possible courses of action:

Education: Informing Gay males which bathhouses are

(Continued on next page)

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A GAY VIEW FROM WASHINGTON

U.S. Civil Rights Director Attacks Gays

by Larry Bush

Civil rights protections ought not to be extended to Gays and homosexuals should be encouraged to stay in the closet, the staff director of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission said in an interview with a New Christian Right publication.

Linda Chavez, staff director of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, also said "the homosexual rights movement has really damaged what ought to be the privacy of homosexuals" by insisting on civil rights protections.

"... What you are really doing was inviting public scorn and also public persecution, when you attempted to make these issues a matter of public debate," Chavez told the *Family Protection Report*, a publication of the ultraconservative Free Congress Foundation, which also sponsored publication of *The Homosexual Network*, a book alleging that the Gay rights movement receives in excess of \$250 million in public funds each year. The *Family Protection Report* was launched as a support newsletter for the Family Protection Act, a New Christian Rights proposal that included provisions to deny Gays and Gay rights supporters any right to participate in federal programs.

Chavez, a former top aide to American Federation of Teachers leader Albert Shanker, was appointed by President Reagan in a reshuffling of the nation's top civil rights panel to give it a more conservative orientation.

The panel previously has held that Gay civil rights issues are outside its mandate, since Congress has yet to pass legislation providing civil rights protections for Gays. However, two Reagan candidates for positions on the panel withdrew after publicly attacking civil rights protections for Gays.

"There is a big move afoot to have sexual preference included in the list of so-called protected classes that would come in, not just for housing, but in other aspects of the civil rights law as well," Chavez said in the March 1984 newsletter.

"I have very strong reservations about including sexual preference as one of the so-called protected classes," Chavez said. "I think that distinctions based on gender ought to be protected because those are invidious distinctions when it comes to employment, but preference is not the same thing and it certainly is not the same thing as race or religion. And, I have very strong reservations about expanding civil rights laws to include protections for those whose so-called lifestyles are different than the majority."

"The old Commission did not believe that it was this Commission's jurisdiction to take a look at sexual preference," Chavez noted. "I don't know whether they had a position about whether sexual preference ought to be included under the Civil Rights Act. And, my guess is that that issue is going to come before this Commission. As you well know, at the federal level there is a bill that would make sexual preference one of the protected classes."

Chavez recounts the themes of an article on Gay teachers she published when she was editor of *American Educator*, endorsing its suggestion that Gays stay in the closet. The article was authored by William Bennett, who now serves as President Reagan's chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"Essentially the position he came out with was, I think, a very reasonable one," Chavez said. "You don't want to suggest that homosexuals ought to be persecuted. The question is really in some ways a matter of how homosexuals themselves approach the issue. Surely, everyone can remember experiences as a child in school, remembering this or that teacher, one that you thought perhaps was a homosexual. But it's one thing to have a teacher that believes he or she has the right to come in and promote homosexuality as a very viable alternative to heterosexuality."

"I believe that the homosexual rights movement has really damaged what ought to be the privacy of homosexuals," Chavez said. "When you begin to try and make it simply a matter of choice between taste, then you really are — you're really taking the public morality and flaunting it in a way that most people won't abide."

The newly refashioned Civil Rights Commission has come in for sharp criticism from traditional civil rights groups, and now is the target of an effort to "defund" its program by denying it a congressional appropriation. That effort is supported by leaders of the Congressional Black Caucus, Women's Caucus, and Hispanic Caucus, which believe the Commission will roll back national commitments on civil rights.

(Continued from previous page)

open and what is considered safe sex.

Legal Action: Continuing to explore what legal actions could or should be taken.

Lobbying: The beginning of lobbying for support on the Board of Supervisors to assure civil liberty safeguards in possible future legislation.

Media Event: A possible public media event that will dramatically illustrate the current problems.

A Gay Town Hall will be ten-

G. Mendenhall

City's Song — Which One Will It Be?

(Continued from page 1)

ing ovations as they sang the song in 1981 on a cross-country tour. As the furor over the song heightened this week, CBS Television was setting up a taping of the group as they performed for the weekly lunch of the downtown Kiwanis Club.

Following Hinkle's story, Mayor Dianne Feinstein went on record as opposing the bumping of "I Left My Heart..." as the city's official song. She reasoned that it will make the city look unorganized if the city changes its song just weeks before the Democratic convention. Showing his contempt for the song and the mayor's defense, Hinkle responded by labeling the mayor Little Miss Muzak.

Next, Supervisor Quentin Kopp (legendary Feinstein-baiter) jumped into the fray with rare enthusiasm for a "Gay rights" issue. Jack Davis, his campaign manager, who can seldom sell his candidate in the Gay community, had a winner on this issue and he knew it. He was beaming as Kopp presented his resolution for change this Monday to the Board of Supervisors.

Kopp announced that he wants this Gay classic, "San Francisco," to become the official song of the city to replace "I Left My Heart..." Speaking for the Gay anthem, Kopp said, "It elicits emotions of honor, gut pride, and respect." Hardly a romantic, Kopp said, "'I Left My Heart in San Francisco' was capriciously adopted at the height of its popularity in the late '60s and at a time when the hippie-love movement apparently influenced our Board of Supervisors into memorializing a sugary-sweet, schmaltzy jingle." Kopp displayed his own slip-up on history, for "I Left My

Heart..." was anything but a hippie song. They had their own call to the psychedelic colors.

The resolution was adopted in 1969, the same year as the Stonewall riots in New York City. The Tony Bennett song declined in popularity as the Gay movement gained in strength and people began to sing "San Francisco."

At press time, the issue continued to bubble on. Supervisor Richard Hongisto wanted a direction from the city and asked the *San Francisco Chronicle* to run a poll. Following a weekend editorial favoring the song, the poll leaned heavily toward "San Francisco." Summing up the situation, Hongisto said, "This is a musical issue, not a political issue!"

Supervisor Bill Maher suggested that while the city was changing its song, it should also change its flower. He suggested the sensimilla.

Always the romantic, Supervisor Louise Renne was concerned that people knocking "I Left My Heart..." would be insensitive to the love song. She commented that she was nearing her wedding anniversary and she liked the tune. Notwithstanding, she voted for the resolution. Eight supervisors voted for the resolution, which is enough to override a mayor's veto.

Down on Castro Street there was a mood of elation as the Gay community learned that its Gay anthem was on the way to becoming the official song of the city. In its ongoing campaign to champion the tune, the Castro Theatre's mighty Wurlitzer nightly boomed out its grand dynamic sounds. Castro Country Florist's Bob Cramer donned a t-shirt with a San Francisco

flag, and people began to hum as a piano player in the Elephant Walk tinkled away.

The odds were on that a Gay anthem was on its way to becoming the song of San Francisco and another victory for Gay pride was being won.

QUAKE FOLLOWS PERFORMANCE

On Tuesday the Gay Men's Chorus sang "San Francisco" high atop Nob Hill for CBS Television. Their performance was followed minutes later by a whopper of an earthquake.

At 12:50 the Gay Chorus was introduced and the singers made their entrance into the Garden Room of the Fairmont Hotel. With almost twice as many chorus members in the room as Kiwanians, they began. With gusto and enthusiasm that would have made Jeanette MacDonald proud, they sang "San Francisco."

In the tradition of the film, the ground began to shake just minutes after the chorus finished singing. In a tremendous statement of Gay power, the ground began to shake and the chandeliers started to sway in the elegant Fairmont Hotel.

The crew rushed back to their studios to process the film and complete their story about "San Francisco." Last Tuesday night for all the country to see, Dan Rather introduced a segment on the controversial issue of songs throughout California. Without skipping a beat, correspondent Barry Peterson introduced the chorus to the nation.

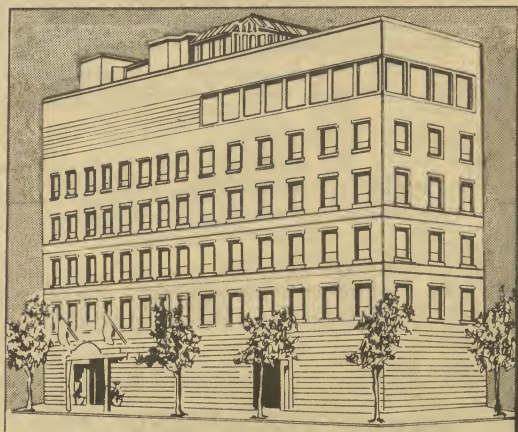
Tuesday's earthquake and performance of the song came just four days after the 78th anniversary of the day San Francisco was rocked to the ground in the quake of 1906.

A. White

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POLITICS AND POKER

Mondale Headed for Win?

WAYNE FRIDAY

Now that the first half of Democratic Party primaries and caucuses is over and the nomination fight heads for the West and Southwest, where Colorado's Gary Hart is supposed to be stronger, Walter Mondale's front-running campaign appears to be headed for the nomination. There seems to be little that Gary Hart can do, short of a political miracle, to stop Mondale. Indeed, most of the Democratic Party big money is solidly behind the Mondale effort, with a number of political forecasters predicting Mondale will go into the convention with enough delegates for a win on the first ballot. Mondale campaign insiders, though they will certainly not say so publicly, are now cautiously confident they have the votes. Even Gary Hart's top advisors are saying that unless they can win in Ohio next month, run a strong second in Texas, and win the California primary in June, the Hart effort will be over by July.

All three candidates took it easy over the Easter holidays, but are back on the campaign trail with charges and countercharges again flying. Hart hinted this week that Mondale's campaign has not been playing the campaign finance game fairly; Mondale is trying to ignore the sagging Hart campaign altogether and pretend he is already running against Ronald Reagan, while all the while picking up more important party endorsements. Jesse Jackson announced that while he had definitely ruled out an independent campaign in November, he had a long laundry list of demands he said the party must make before he pledges to campaign this fall for the Democratic nominee. In addition to setting himself up to be the kingmaker (spoiler?) Jackson was kept busy trying to hide the growing embarrassment his campaign has with the mouth of one of Jesse's strongest supporters, Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan, who has to date threatened the life of a Black Washington reporter who leaked the infamous "Hymie" remark; threatened to retaliate against the American Jewish community for its "treatment" of Jesse Jackson; called Adolph Hitler a "great" man; and warned only this week that if Brother Jesse isn't given the royal treatment by the Democratic Party, he (Farrakhan) will "lead an army" to Washington to demand that Blacks be allowed to secede from the United States. Jackson refuses to repudiate the radical, racist statements of his friend Farrakhan, choosing to ignore them instead; and neither Hart nor Mondale have shown they have the guts to comment on Jesse's big-name supporter.

The current count of delegates including those chosen last week in Missouri stands at Mondale with 1,131; Hart at 597; Jackson with 166; "uncommitted" at 322; and "other" at 58. There are 1,659 delegates yet to be chosen, with 1,967 needed for nomination.

The Rev. Cecil Williams, one of Jesse Jackson's leading Northern California organizers, announced this week that Jackson will appear at a rally in the parking lot across the street from the Moscone Center on July 15, the same day as the planned Gay/Lesbian March, which is, incidentally, the same

day as the scheduled Labor parade. Should be an interesting day, with something for just about everybody (incidentally, though they won't admit it, don't be surprised if the Jackson rally that day ends up in Union Square rather than the parking lot).

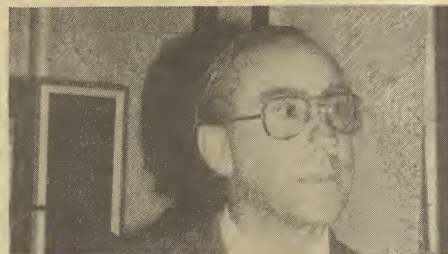
Jesse Jackson, looking for a reason for his campaign, tells *Playboy* magazine in an upcoming interview that the failure of "liberal allies" like Mondale and Ted Kennedy to support Chicago Mayor Harold Washington's campaign last year prompted his decision to enter the presidential campaign (Mondale supported Richard Daley and Kennedy backed former Mayor Jane Byrne). Jackson attacked both Democrats, saying that "Kennedy and Mondale came riding into town with smoking guns, supporting party regulars over the progressive Black candidate . . . if it had been left to them, the rise of the Black political movement would have been stopped, stillborn."

Showing how little the recent Toklas Club's silly condemnation of *Chronicle* reporter Randy Shilts meant, the editor of the *Chron*, upon hearing of the petty Toklas action, promptly gave Shilts a raise in pay (thank you very much, Mr. Stallings!). • And speaking of Gay political clubs, CRIR president Tom Peretti raised a few eyebrows and annoyed some of the mayor's strongest supporters with his comment last week ("We don't

vent us from knowing this, but the Mondale campaign will be holed up during the convention at the new Meridian Hotel. Hart and Company will be staying at the St. Francis, while Jesse Jackson will be at the Hyatt Union Square. • And if anyone cares, Jimmy Carter will be at the Hyatt Regency. • The *Progress* Jack Rosenbaum found it an "odd mix" that "Gay leaders" honored Mission Station Captain Vic Macia at a party (actually a fundraiser for CUAV) at Mayor Feinstein's home recently. And what the hell is so "odd" about any community saying thanks to a good cop? • Massachusetts Representative Gerry Studds, the nation's

ty Committee seats only means that Milk Club will return the favor this week — and the beat goes on. • The *Sacramento Bee* had an in-depth interview with Art Agnos a few days ago in which Agnos declares rather loftily that he could have easily been in Congress by now. "Phil Burton handed me a seat (John Burton's) on a silver platter, but I didn't want that kind of lifestyle for my wife and kids." He does admit, however, that he's giving some thought to running for mayor of San Francisco in 1987 (get in line, Art).

Famed astrologer, psychic, and evangelist Jeanne Dixon in San Francisco last



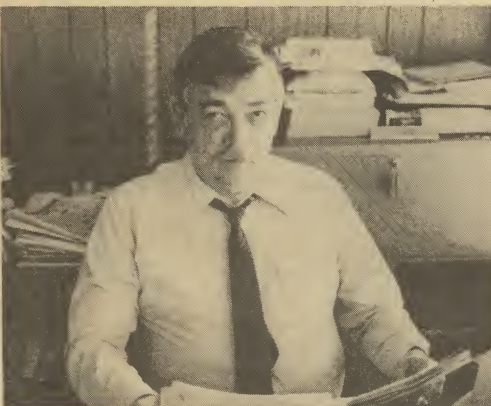
Pushed out of the closet Massachusetts Congressman Gerry Studds will be fundraised both in Oakland and in S.F. (Photo: Rink)

only out-of-the-closet congressman, will be honored at a fundraiser for his re-election on Sunday, May 6, at the home of Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport. Studds will be introduced by East Bay Congressman Ron Dellums. The brunch is co-sponsored by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Demo Club. Studds will be at a Jim Hornel fundraiser that same night.

A well done to Scott Forbes and his Studio One in L.A. A benefit he had put on last month at his club with Joan Rivers, Charles Nelson Reilly, and Sylvester raised over \$45,000 in one

week predicted that Dianne Feinstein will not be the vice presidential nominee but will go on to a powerful national job in politics taking her away from San Francisco. She said also that "Dianne Feinstein has a tremendous political struggle coming up that will be a blessing in disguise; she (Feinstein) will make some decisions concerning the Gay community and will be right. The Gay community will oppose her and she will have some bitter enemies behind her back she will not deserve." (Oh, well, Dianne has been through it all here and she's still on top, so why worry?) • The House Public Works and Transportation's Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds is examining the effectiveness of the GSA in ridding federal buildings of asbestos, which is on the list of carcinogenic hazards, and the subcommittee has described the Burton Federal Building in San Francisco as the one building "most seriously affected" by the asbestos problem. • Gay activists in San Diego lining up behind Mayor Roger Hedgecock's re-election effort. • State Superintendent of Public Instruction Bill Honig, a Republican holding a nonpartisan office, already has announced he will seek re-election in 1986. Sacramento political watchers expect Honig to run for higher office later. • The *Exam*'s feature story last week on Community College president Tim Wolfred had to have pleased his campaign people. • The rest of them might be acting coy, but Michigan's Lt. Governor Martha Griffiths, 72, is off and running, saying she wants to be the Demos' vice presidential choice ("I'm qualified; I would love to be vice president.").

What would have been Harvey Milk's 54th birthday will be celebrated on Sunday, May 20, when the Harvey Milk Archives and the Castro Street Fair Committee hold a party on Castro between 17th and 18th from 1 to 5 p.m. The Milk Demo Club will round out the Milk birthday celebration with a dinner at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park on May 30. • And speaking of birthdays, *Bay Area Reporter* publisher Bob Ross will be honored for his many years of service to San Francisco and the Gay community at a dinner honoring his 50th birthday on Monday, May 7, at the Hyatt Regency; \$100 for this one, with all proceeds going to benefit The Human Rights Campaign Fund and the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance.



Golden Gate Bridge Board member Bob Ross celebrates his 50th birthday at a gala fundraiser May 7. (Photo: Rink)

need State Senator H.L. Richardson to take us backwards; we have the Feinstein administration here in San Francisco.").

The *New York Times* ran a major story Saturday entitled "Pre-Convention Jitters for San Francisco," hitting on such points as the planned endless demonstrations, rallies, etc. scheduled for convention time; worry over police control of demonstrations; the mayor's furor with cab drivers; Harry Britt's plans to tell visiting reporters of "the Gay community's plans for the convention;" the furious filling of potholes and repaving of city streets; etc. • (Incidentally, if anyone is reading this that knows somebody in the Department of Public Works, would you please inform them of the scandalous condition that Divisadero Street is in between Castro and Sacramento Streets? Damn, the potholes on that street would ruin any car — as many as five holes in a single block.) • Security of the candidates is supposed to pre-

afternoon for three AIDS charities in Los Angeles. • The S.F. chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) are holding a fundraiser for Harry Britt on Friday, May 4, at 55 Laguna (\$4-\$30 donation asked; 5-8 p.m.).

In Buffalo, NY, last week, Mayor James Griffin's veto of an ordinance banning discrimination against Gays was overridden by the City Council. That ordinance now becomes law in Buffalo. • Municipal Court Judge Albert Wollenberg, Jr., the only judge opposed in the June election, has been endorsed by both Judge Mary Morgan and Judge Herb Donaldson. • In Los Angeles last week a federal judge ruled that a Gay man can sue the CIA for revoking his top-secret clearance at defense supplier TRW in Redondo; electrical engineer John W. Green, 50, of L.A. says the intelligence agency banned him from sensitive work because he's Gay.

The failure last week of the Toklas Club to endorse any of the Milk Club leaders for Coun-

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

San Jose

SAL ACCARDI

Bathhouse Owner Continues His Fight for Gay Rights

by Brian Jones

What is a San Jose bathhouse owner doing leading the fight over San Francisco's ban on Gay sex in the baths?

It makes more sense than first appearances would lead you to believe when the leader is Sal Accardi, owner of the Watergarden in San Jose. As a 15-year veteran of Gay rights organizing in Santa Clara County, Accardi has been through the wars.

"When the bathhouse owners' group got together, it turned out that I was probably the most qualified to speak for the group," Accardi said. "I was pretty experienced in dealing with the media."

Accardi, 37, first got involved in the Gay movement while a student at San Jose State. He was one of the founders of the Gay Student Union there, a self-described "upfront militant," when he wasn't studying for his bachelor's degree in drama and speech.

Accardi's entry into the bathhouse field came shortly after graduation, when he was forced to choose between his activism and his career.

"I did get offered a job — a teaching job in Arkansas," Accardi said. "I said, 'What is a Gay militant going to do in Arkansas? Don't they castrate people there?' And yet I didn't want to be a starving actor for 30 years before going up for the Oscar."

That was in 1974. Accardi decided to turn down the teaching job, forget about acting for a while, and "open the best baths in the country. Ha! Little did I know what was involved."

During the next two years, Accardi's efforts to open a bathhouse in the South Bay called upon all the political skills he had learned in college — and taught him some new ones. They are lessons he is drawing on today, now that San Francisco bathhouses are the area's hottest political controversy.

"The Watergarden was a

political statement," Accardi said. "Nobody believed a bath — especially a bathhouse like we wanted to open — would ever work in San Jose. I had to confront the city and, at one point, the police."

Accardi approached the business like a political campaign and started lobbying.

"I got the endorsement from the downtown Merchants Association and the Chamber of Commerce," Accardi said. "I told them, 'Why should San Francisco get all that money from the Gay patrons running up there on the weekends?' and that caught their attention."

The Watergarden opened in February 1977 "after two years of putting the package together." Although Accardi is technically the owner, there are, in fact, 37 investors — which is part of an unusual philosophy Accardi ascribes to in combining the bathhouse as a business with community-based politics.

"I didn't have a dime," Accardi said. "My role was to get people in the community together. So it's a very community-based setup. And many of my employees — those who have been here five years — are also investors."

In an effort to ease relations between the club and city officials, Accardi regularly toured

members of the city council — including the mayor of San Jose — through the club.

The bathhouse's political involvement worked the other way, too. Accardi and his club were key players in the 1981 Santa Clara County Proposition A and B initiatives on equal rights for Gays and Lesbians. The bathhouse levied an extra dollar on its door charge and raised about \$18,000 for the campaign, Accardi said.

Accardi's idea for raising funds in the A and B campaign was highly controversial — though it raised \$35,000 (including the money his club pitched in). Called "10 on 10," the plan was for Gay and Les-



Sal Accardi (l.) speaking at a Pro-Bath rally April 1. (Photo: Rink)

bian bars to charge an extra 10 cents per drink, while the Watergarden contributed its extra \$1 door levy, to raise money for the rights campaign.

Some bars didn't go for the strategy, and when they were singled out by the San Jose Gay newspaper, and others — and many urged Gays not to spend there — Accardi became the brunt of some bar owners' anger.

His experiences in college, in opening the Watergarden, and in the A and B campaign were rehearsals for the biggest battle of his political — and business — career: the fight to keep bathhouses open in the age of AIDS, and the San Francisco sex ban it prompted.

"I got involved organizing the bathhouse owners because I saw the writing on the wall with AIDS," Accardi said. "We got together about a year ago. Until then, we had little conversation with each other — as owners, many of us had little in common, socially or politically."

"When AIDS hit, it was the force that galvanized us and got us together. At the time, there was a general lack of knowledge of what AIDS was and how you could get it."

Despite "some disagreements," the owners generally agreed to take part in efforts to educate bathhouse customers on the latest information about AIDS.

(Continued on page 19)



Sal Accardi (Photo: Rink)

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EBL/GDC Backs Endorsements With Dollars

by John Wetzel

Gay dollars, it seems, will float into the East Bay primary elections in the most directed fashion ever this year. Those candidates most supportive of Gay and Lesbian issues get the most handouts via the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club's Campaign for Equality, EBL/GDC announced. While the donations are not staggering, the message, and EBL/GDC commitments, are clear.

Marge Gibson, running for a seat on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, will receive the largest chunk of money out of the \$1,300 pool, about eight times as much as any other single candidate. Gibson kicked off her campaign last Monday when the club handed over a \$400 check. The club will also hold a fundraiser for Gibson.

As a member of the Oakland City Council Gibson sponsored the club's successful Oakland Rights Ordinance last year. EBL/GDC members now feel pressure to show what they can do for candidates they like.

"We felt Marge's race was a priority race for us and should get a significant amount of our funds for her campaign," said EBL/GDC Finance Chair Kerry Woodward.

The club had approved a motion at its last general membership meeting to appropriate between \$250 and \$500 to Gibson's race.

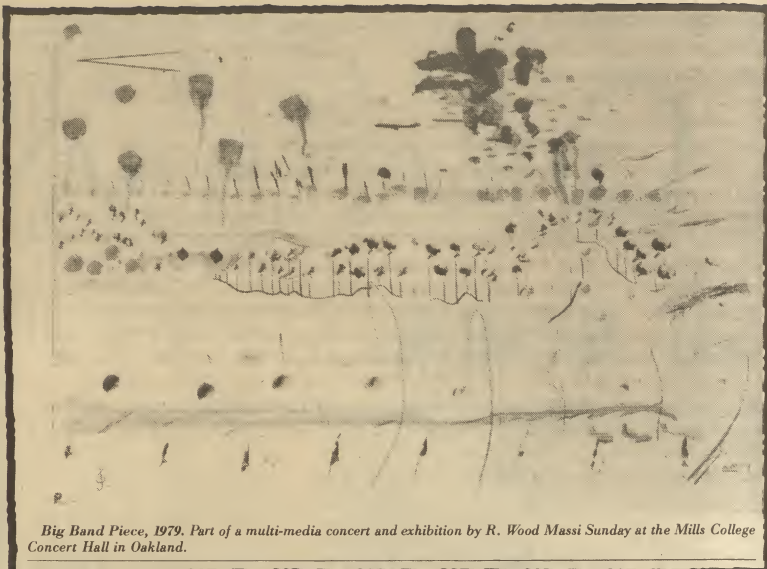
"I think the sense of that motion was really to say that the EBL/GDC sees Marge Gibson's race as the number one priority for this election," said Woodward.

For Hayward Municipal Court candidate Peggy Hora the Political Action Committee's recommendation was to impart a \$50 donation, either through a fundraiser or out of Campaign for Equality funds. EBL/GDC President Armand Boulay has already planned an independent fundraiser for Hora. EBL/GDC's executive committee approved the \$50 donation, as it did the other recommendations.

In other elections, Edgar Rakestraw, a club member, got \$50 to use in his election bid for the Alameda County Democratic Party Central Committee, and an entire slate, including two club officers running for the party central committee, got a full \$100.

"When you've got that many people running who've been supportive of you and two of them are openly Gay," said Woodward of the slate donation, "obviously it behooves us to show that Gay people are electable."

The EBL/GDC also elected to donate \$50 to Trudie Rogers, a Lesbian, running for the Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board. An undisclosed amount of money from the Campaign for Equality fund will go toward the



Big Band Piece, 1979. Part of a multi-media concert and exhibition by R. Wood Massi Sunday at the Mills College Concert Hall in Oakland.

printing of slatecards and advertisement of the club's endorsements.

"We were making decisions on a variety of factors," Woodward said. "One would be how supportive these people have been toward us. Another would be how significant are their races. Is it going to make a real difference to us one way or the other if this person is elected or not? How viable is the candidate? Does this candidate have a real chance or not? And how much is their financial need?"

For Diana Patrick, running for state senator against a heavily-backed conservative in

Contra Costa County, the Campaign for Equality will either hold a fundraiser or donate \$50.

"That was a little bit up in the air, but it's sort of an either/or type thing," said Woodward. Patrick's opponent voted against AB-1.

EBL/GDC leadership feels the seats in the Democratic Party Central Committee are very important.

"First of all, it (EBL/GDC) is a Democratic club, so it has very strong ties to the Democratic Party," said Woodward. "We're very concerned about the policies set by the party and the issues, particularly, of course,

the Gay issues.

"It's important for us to have friends who are on the party's central committee making those key decisions. It's also important for development of contacts and ability of access to various public officials," she said.

Woodward said most people don't care about the election results for the party seats.

"But the central committee does make some decisions and does set issues," Woodward said. "The central committee came out in favor of AB-1 and sent a letter to Senator Lockyer urging him to support AB-1."

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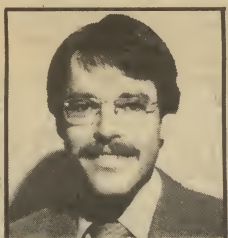
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Briggs' Second Lawsuit Rejected

The *Sacramento Bee* reported recently that former State Senator John Briggs' second \$1 million claim against El Dorado County was filed last month and was rejected by the Board of Supervisors.

The claim was identical to one filed and denied last October.

The two claims stem from a June 6, 1983, incident at Briggs' ranch north of Placerville. The former Orange County legislator was charged with battery and brandishing a weapon at Charles Putney, who went to the ranch to serve Briggs with a summons in a Superior Court civil lawsuit.

The board's denial of the claims opens the way for Briggs to file court lawsuits over his prosecution on the two charges.

Rejected was a \$1 million claim filed by Sacramento attorney John E. Virga and stating that Briggs was prosecuted "maliciously and in bad faith" on the brandishing charge. A jury was unable to reach a verdict on that charge, deadlocking last autumn 9-3 in favor of acquittal.

The brandishing charge was dismissed in late December.

The jury's acquittal of Briggs on the battery allegation had led

to the October claim to the supervisors.

Still pending in El Dorado County Superior Court is Briggs' lawsuit against two other process servers who testified against him in the Putney case.

That civil action, against Bill Stokes and Jerry L. Bluemel, contends the two men harassed Briggs by trespassing on his ranch in December 1982.

The two testified that Briggs assaulted Stokes when they tried to serve him with civil papers. Briggs denied attacking Stokes but said any aggressive action was justified because the two men entered his home without identifying themselves.

South Bay Eight Ball

H.M.S. the League Champions

The South Bay Eight Ball League successfully completed its third season on April 4. H.M.S. defeated Daybreak II in the first match, 10 to 5. Frank Rose led H.M.S. with a three-game sweep. The second match was much closer. The girls put up a good fight, but H.M.S.

squeaked a come-from-behind 8 to 7 score. Dale Atwater led

H.M.S. with the deciding game and a three-game sweep.

The league is comprised of 12 teams — two 6-team divisions. The season is 17 weeks long. A match is comprised of 15 games. Five players play three games against the same opponent unless a substitution is made. The team scoring eight games or more receives an additional five points. Total points determines the division champions. Prize money is \$325, \$250, and \$200, won by 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, respectively. The division champions play a two-out-of-three series

for an additional \$500 and the right to host the banquet.

H.M.S., the winners, will host the banquet at H.M.S. on Sunday, May 6, at 5 p.m. at 1660 South Bascom Avenue in Campbell. An All Star match will be played between the divisions. The players with the eight best percentages during league play will square off against each other.

Any players interested in joining the next season, which will begin preliminary matches in mid-July, are welcome to attend the banquet. Anyone interested in more information may call Mark Lopez at (408) 259-2829.

FINAL STANDING

South Division	
The Daybreak II	210 105 .618
The Cruiser	207 103 .609
The Boot Rack	197 118 .579
Main Street	144 141 .424
The Answer	143 137 .421
Renegades	126 139 .377

North Division

H.M.S.	224 101 .659
The Daybreak I	216 99 .635
The Garden	192 123 .565
The Savoy	170 135 .500
Desperados	138 132 .406
Buck's Saloon	73 162 .215

PERCENTAGE LEADERS (will play in banquet series)

North Division

Linda Createore	.813
Liz Cole	.667
Frank Rose	.647
Bonnie Bullivant	.647
Tammy Fulton	.634
George M.	.630
Mark Lopez	.592
Windy Holt	.588

South Division

Jeanne Jerkovich	.686
Wally Walters	.686
Kenjo Johnson	.681
Mark Saab	.646
David McSword	.627
Ron Bettencourt	.604
Joe Cuen	.588
Sam Gutierrez	.588

OAKLAND

Laguna or Bust

NEZ PAS

Noctambulist's Nonterm (An Escaping Nose [apologies to "Mary Louise"]?) Ever hear of anyone driving more than 800 miles, round trip, just to buy five replacement plates for pottery dinnerware? No? Well, now you have! My spouse and I did just that last week.

The Pottery Shack in Laguna Beach is where we originally purchased our dinnerware (egads, that was more than 12 years ago!), so naturally that's where we HAD to go for open stock, right? Well, dear ones, we didn't drive THAT far just to turn around and come back — no, siree! A mini-vacation is what we had in mind.

The Coast Inn is still THE popular Gay place to stay in Laguna Beach. I don't suppose that's because it's right over the ever-popular, ever-crowded Boom Boom Room! Oh, to be young, pretty, and built — not to mention, TAN — because that is what is the M.O. of Boom Boom's customers! Talk about eyeball teasers! Maybe that's the reason our Scotch and waters were 30 cents more than the other two places down there?

Main Street is a comfortable bar — a neighborhood bar, if you will, and features piano entertainment nightly. Vibes are good there, but remember: a tourist is a tourist, and the locals don't volunteer friendliness — but it can be coaxed!

Our very favorite spot by far was the Little Shrimp (the only Gay restaurant in Laguna Beach). Charlie, an eight-year veteran on the planks there, gabs with locals and tourists alike. He remembered our drinks after the first order, for our two days' stay. (No, we weren't there ALL the time!) Like Main Street, The Little Shrimp has a piano bar nightly which can be fun, especially if the sound system fouls up and the entertainer forgets her mike is on — Mercy! Such four-letter words over the PA... 't was Heaven!

The Little Shrimp's menu is

excellent! Every item we tried was prepared superbly (we ate there both nights) and the service was sheer delight! Rusty — remember that name — was an outstanding waiter. On our first visit, he was working the floor solo, and he handled every order and every table with such aplomb and professionalism, you couldn't tell if he was flustered and harassed or not! His service to every table was impeccable. He was thorough, attentive, interested, and did his job!

Was it MY fault the close proximity of the tables necessitated Rusty's squeezing between the set-ups, dramatically displaying one of the absolutely nicest pair of buns I've ever seen? Of course I quickly turned away, but luckily I had my mirrored compact ready for such a challenge!

Aside from the assets of his "ass sits," Rusty was tops. He has to love his job, for he commutes 40 miles each way daily from Carlsbad to perform his duties. His lover, Scott, is night bartender at the Boom Boom Room — he's not unpleasant on the eyes, either!

Laguna Beach is, well Laguna Beach. During the day, if you're not into sun, surf, and body worship, there's not much to do. How many "tourist shops" can one visit? Thank goodness for cribbage — that's always a challenge and an interest! But, the nights — ah, there's the magic! All three places (Boom Boom Room/Coast Inn, Main Street, and The Little Shrimp) are within one and one-half blocks walking distance.

Coast Highway is ALWAYS busy, and crossing the street can be a bit hairy if you're not lucky enough to be at a signal. And, those famous "yellow flags" are no more! You don't suppose too many did as I did and, er, borrowed one for a souvenir?

It's good to be home, but Rusty made our sojourn memorable! Hate to disappoint you,

dear ones, but it was a friendly meeting/memory; not a trick meeting/memory!

NEZ'S NOTES:

• My deadline necessitates an update next column on Gay Sheriff Sean's "After Taxes" party at Big Mama's, and RGD Larry's FIRST East Bay Basket Auction at Town & Country.

• The Fliers are finally out! "They," I was told, were slow in getting them ready. The ominous "THEY" syndrome strikes again! This Saturday, April 28, Mr. Stan, Lady Dee Dee and Lady Starr invite all to a spaghetti feast at the Jubilee, 4900 Bancroft. The \$2 donation includes pasta, entertainment, and antics of MC's Stephanie and Amazon. Raffles, to be sure, will add to the proceeds to benefit ACIE Coronation '84 (would that they could get the ballroom at the old Oakland Hotel!).

• The second — in a series of seven — auctions by Little Mother and Ed Paulson takes place at 4 p.m. at the Spoiled Brat, Sunday, April 29. They DO need items for auctioning, so peruse once again the posters and flyers for phone numbers.

• Immediately (?) after the auction, Lady Johnny (Imperial Crown Princess, ACIE) will present "A Trip to Fantasy Island '84" (also to benefit ACIE Coronation '84). She is presenting, seemingly, a cast of thousands, and the festivities will include the proverbial raffles, a limbo contest, plus a three-part entertainment segment. Tony Valentine will "visit" the East Bay to co-host that particular portion, along with Spice Empress Ginger and Grand Duke & Duchess of San Francisco, Ken and Sable. Oh, yes, Cha Cha and Don (Empress and Emperor ACIE) will host the entire affair!

• That about wraps up April, but watch out for May! Along with a "Say 'Hey, Merry May," featuring the Bravo band, RGD Larry's second Basket Auction (Revol, Monday, May 14), Little Mother and Ed Paulson's third AIDS Auction (Town & Country, Sunday, May 29), be prepared for yet another "High Heel Dance Contest" a la Cha Cha, plus various and sundry thisa's and thata's to be made public before too long. In June, save time for the "Big Daddy" party to be held on Father's Day!

• Yes, Taco Toni did have her Easter hat party at the Bench & Bar — however, the flyers were out sooooo late! Was it "they" again?

• Most East Bay bars have those "Barrel of Boozie" tickets for only one buck each. Drawing by Ed Paulson on Sunday, September 9. Hmm? Yes, it's all "call" brands!

• Congratulations to Daddy David's promotion! Sources tell me he'll be "manager" while Zephyr and Hagatha vacation in LA.

• How come Ed Paulson laughs when told Bob Ross is 50 years old? He says he remembers Bob being 50 several years ago!

• Harumph! I ALMOST lost 40 cents the other day due to a term I used in last week's column. The word was ambergris, and I just "knew" that everyone would know what it was/is! Luckily, a double or nothing bet found one that knew! Thank goodness I didn't place any wagers on maulstick (mahstick). I probably would have lost \$1.40! However, I did think my camp term, NOVAcane, was pretty good!

• Hmmm? Oh, the open stock dishes. Yes, they were still available, (barely!) — we got the last five in stock! — but the color is just a tad different. Not really noticeable under candle light, however!

I once had a ticket to the GOOD LIFE, but somehow I could never find the blasted entrance! Oh well, I smile — a little! Love,

Nez

SAL ACCARDI

(Continued from page 17)

"I felt that we were in an excellent position to educate our patrons and protect the health and well-being," Accardi said.

When the proposal to close the baths, and then ban sex in them, first surfaced about six weeks ago, Accardi was in the forefront as spokesperson for the Northern California Bath Owners Association. His face appeared nightly on television, and his quotes appeared daily in the San Francisco papers.

"One reason I was chosen is because my place is out of town," Accardi said. "They could see I was fighting for the cause and not directly for my own baths. And also, that I'm not trying to cut anybody else out locally."

The controversy in San Francisco, ironically, may be a boon to baths in the East Bay and South Bay.

"Business at the Watergarden is pretty good, in fact," Accardi said.

B. Jones



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THIS

THURSDAY 26

- **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage performance, featuring *Superstitions* and *Sad Lament of Pecos Bill* on the *Eve of Killing His Wife*, Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM, call 441-8822 for ticket prices.
- **5th of July:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM. Call 861-5079 for ticket prices and availability. Written by Lanford Wilson and directed by Joe Cappetta.
- **Tuffy Eldredge and Christa Hillhouse:** 12-string originals, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free.
- **Judy's Floating Head:** comedy written and performed by Lee Strucker and Nadine Caracciolo, Intersection for the Arts, 756 Union St. (between Powell and Mason), S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7.
- **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St., S.F., 8 PM, \$15 and \$18. Award-winning playwright Jane Chambers' play about Lesbian love and death.
- **Raven's Seed:** stage performance by Sansel Productions, People's Theater Coalition, Fort Mason Center, Building B, 8 PM, \$10.
- **The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium:** stage performance, Magic Theatre, Building D, Fort Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM, call 441-8822 for ticket prices.
- **Avotcja and Blackberri:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- **Frontrunners:** running clinic for beginners and seasoned runners, City Athletic Club, 2500 Market St., S.F., 8 PM, free.
- **AIDS Update:** seminar, City College of S.F., TBA, 1 PM, free. An update on AIDS for City College students.
- **Tom Andersen:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM. Formerly of *Beach Blanket Babylon*.
- **National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights:** meeting, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM. For more information call 863-5005.
- **Gay Italian/American cocktail party:** Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 6 to 8:30 PM, \$3 members, \$5 nonmembers, includes Italian hors d'oeuvres and one drink.
- **Leland Mellott:** poetry/theater performance, Valencia Rose (second floor), 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$2.

FRIDAY 27

- **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof:** stage performance by the River Repertory Theater, Russian River Theater Center, Guerneville, \$5. Directed by Regan Durrant. Call (707) 865-2147 for more information.
- **5th of July:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Comedy Cabaret:** featuring Monica Palacios and Marga Gomez, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free.
- **Judy's Floating Head:** comedy theater performance, \$8 (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, \$17 and \$20 (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Raven's Seed:** stage performance, \$11 (see Thursday listing for details).
- **The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Follies by Hot Flash:** musical extravaganza by Women's Experimental Theater of Options for Women Over 40, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$4 to \$6 sliding scale.
- **Darryl Henriques:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. The Swami from Miami plays one night only.
- **Miss Faye Carol:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM.
- **Kerrigan Black:** music, Sansome St. Brasserie, 411 Sansome St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.
- **Lesbians Over 60:** support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 4:30 to 6 PM, free. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. For more information call Sheryl at 626-7000.
- **Gay Men's Choral:** with Dick Kramer presents *Jerusalem, the Lamb and the Tiger*, St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. Music of Handel, Hassler, Dvorak, Milhaud, Debussy, and spirituals.
- **Reach Out and Dance:** Motown dance sponsored by the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Celebration Committee, Ollie's Radclyffe Hall, Oakland, 9 PM to 1 AM, \$3 to \$5 sliding scale. Monies raised will be used to finance the 1984 East Bay Lesbian/Gay Celebration.
- **Fundamentals:** theater/performance piece, Studio Eremos, 17th and Alabama Sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. A theater of Operations Production by Daniel Steven Crafts and Adam Cornford about American televangelism.



A scene from *Devotions*, one of the films by James Brown.

SATURDAY 28

- **Sam Shepard Double Bill:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **5th of July:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Judy's Floating Head:** comedy theater performance, \$8 (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Last Summer at Bluefish Cove:** stage performance, 5 PM, \$15 and \$18, 9 PM, \$17 and \$20 (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Raven's Seed:** stage performance, \$11 (see Thursday listing for details).
- **The Sister Joseph Memorial Gymnasium:** stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- **Follies by Hot Flash:** musical extravaganza (see Friday listing for details).
- **Gay Comedy Night:** with emcee Marga Gomez and guests Danny Williams, Teresa Holcomb, and Mario Mondelli, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$4.
- **Samantha Samuels:** music, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, 8:30 and 10 PM.



Samantha Samuels will perform at Mame's Saturday.

- **VD Testing:** sponsored by City Clinic, 18th and Castro, noon to 3 PM.
- **Car Camping:** Feather Falls (near Oroville), sponsored by the San Francisco Hiking Club. Call Quentin at 621-3413 for more information.
- **Frontrunners:** Saturday Fun Run, Stow Lake Boathouse, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 10 AM, free. Also Saturday Long Distance Training Run, 10 AM, call 821-7300 for location.
- **Gay Men's Choral:** music, (see Friday listing for details).

WEEK

- Gay Men's Chorale: music (see Friday listing for details).
- Garage Sale: (see Saturday listing for details).
- Kerrigan Black: music, The Griffon, 1700 Shattuck at Virginia, Berkeley, 7:30 to 11:30 PM.
- AIDS and the Bathhouses: forum on "The Gay Life," KSN (95 FM), 6 AM. With Ed Power, Sal Accardi, Harry Britt, Steve Morin, and Gary Titus.
- Black and White Men Together: "Duos" bowling afternoon, Park Bowl, Haight near Stanyan, S.F., 1 to 6 PM, shoe rentals 75 cents, bowling \$1.15 per person per game. Victory celebration to follow at the DeLuxe, 1511 Haight St.
- Patty and Josh: reading of a new play by Toni Press, presented by Lilith, a women's theater, Valencia Rose (upstairs), 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$2. Part of Lilith's monthly playreading series presenting new work of women playwrights.

MONDAY 30

- Gay Comedy Open Mike: with co-emcees Tom Ammiano and Monica Palacios, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$2.
- Maryanne Price and the Millionaires: boogie-woogie, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free.
- Social Dance Classes: Ollie's, 4130 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Learn the two-step, waltz, swing, and popular western dances. Drop in any Monday; classes taught by Fay Cuthbertson. For more information call 588-7113 or 731-2527.
- Bonnie Hayes and Fourth Down: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. With Frantx.
- Lesbians Considering Children: workshop, Lyon-Martin Clinic conference room, 2480 Mission St., Suite 214, S.F., free. Call 641-0220 to reserve a space. Part of an ongoing WomanCare Health and Wellness series sponsored by the Lyon-Martin Clinic.

TUESDAY 1

- Pacific Center for Human Growth: drop-in group for Gay men over 40, Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM. For more information call the Switchboard at 841-2664.
- Debbie Saunders: rhythm and blues, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 PM, free.
- Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- Raven's Seed: stage performance, \$9 (see Thursday listing for details).
- Warren Hinckle: *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist closes out the Spring Writers' Series at the Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8:30 PM, \$5. Hinckle will read from his biography of Dan White, *Gay Slayer*, to be published in April. For more information call 548-2687.

WEDNESDAY 2

- Sam Shepard Double Bill: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- 5th of July: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- Last Summer at Bluefish Cove: stage performance (see Thursday listing for details).
- Raven's Seed: stage performance, \$9 (see Thursday listing for details).
- Lady Bianca: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.
- Marga Gomez and Monica Palacios: comedy, Mame's, 389 Bay at Mason, S.F., 8:30 PM, \$4. With Righteous Raoul at the piano.
- Meeting Your Needs: Intimacy and Sexuality During the Age of AIDS, workshop, sponsored by the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 7 to 9 PM, free. Facilitated by Ed Hall, Ph.D. and Bruce Gunn, M.A. For registration and location call 448-AIDS.
- Republicans United: meeting, Stagecoach restaurant, 44 Montgomery St., S.F., 6 PM, \$2. To meet with and endorse candidates for Congress, State Senate, State Assembly, Municipal and Superior Courts, and County Committee seats in the June 5 primary.
- Fruit Punch: comedy radio show on KPFA (94.1 FM), 10 PM. Will include the Faerie Circle, comedy by Lily Tomlin and Sandy Baron, local Gay comedy, and special Gay and Lesbian features.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

FILM

High Society Be Damned

Film Fest Did Its Best

Cinema Buffs Got Glimpses of Hits the Studios Pass By

by Steve Warren

The people who complained the loudest about the lack of glamour at this year's San Francisco International Film Festival are among those who did the least to add to it. Perhaps we should have an International Glamour Festival to satisfy those gossip-mongers who are looking for something to free lance to *People* or *The National Enquirer*.

The purpose of a film festival is to provide films that might otherwise not be shown here. This year's festival did that. Those who are more interested in the social aspect are the same people who go to the opera to see what people are wearing, but could care less about the music. Some of these people also write big checks to support the arts, so we can't ignore them entirely; but let's keep our priorities in order.



German director Volker Schlöndorff (r.) was introduced to the press by Film Festival publicist Karen Larsen after the opening night showing of his *Swann in Love*. (Photo: S. Warren)

Gay filmmaking was well-represented by The Terence Davies Trilogy and *Forty-Deuce*. Davies isn't exactly glamorous, but he's witty and charming and could be a sensation on talk shows. The Europeans gave us the Gay/non-Gay *The Fourth Man* and *The Wounded Man*; the latter, a repeat from last year's Mill Valley festival, is guaranteed a spot on my Ten Best list the year it opens

a commercial run. There was also a Gay side to Clementine Tango, this year's "cult" discovery which was different from, but no better than, last year's *Liquid Sky*; both were most notable for the leading actresses they introduced.

On the other hand, Paul Ruiz' *The Three Crowns of the Sailor*, which was trounced by most of the local critics, turned

out to be my favorite weird movie since *Diva*, and *The Last Combat* is a close second. Speaking of divas, *L'Ultima Diva*: Francesca Bertini, which was buried in an afternoon slot, is a prime candidate for commercial distribution. It's a delightful profile of a 90-year-old Italian actress who's a real-life "Norma Desmond."

There's never been a better mating of short subject to feature than the showing of *The Haircut* with *The Fourth Man*. It was startling to realize that some of the recurring images so prominent in the Dutch feature were first seen in the totally unrelated American short.

This is being written before the end of the festival, so I'm assuming that closing night has to be more exciting than the dull opener, *Swann in Love*, which brought Volker Schlöndorff to the Opera House. His wife, equally capable filmmaker Margaretha von Trotta, was with him but for some reason was not introduced when they were scrambling for celebrities at the beginning. Schlöndorff should have sparked an interesting press conference, but everyone was too numb from his film to do more than token questioning.

It seemed that everyone at Signal 7 and half the people at *The Plague Dogs* had worked on the respective films. Talk about your "in crowds!"

The festival organizers did a good job of getting things together, supplying the press with information and pre-screening a number of films for those among us who don't have to work days for a living. This let us get advance information to you, and I found myself checking several papers to decide what to see at night.

One suggestion I would offer, for those of us without wheels or wings, is that the festival's two theaters be better juxtaposed. Muni made it impossible to get from one to the other between shows. Perhaps the Strand could replace the Ghirardelli Square next year. That's just a short hop on the Metro — when it's working.



Most Promising Newcomer honors at the festival were taken by the subject of *L'Ultima Diva*: Francesca Bertini.

The 89th Take

Ginger Rogers: In Person Tribute at Castro Theatre

by Michael Lasky

"I'll stay home and make jam rather than talk the filth that you hear in films today," declared a feisty Ginger Rogers to a Castro Theatre filled with adoring fans.

Opinionated yet gracious, demanding yet appreciative, the ever-perky Rogers was at the Castro April 22 as part of the San Francisco Film Festival tribute to her illustrious film career.

The festivities began with her queen-like entrance to the front row of the balcony, which was received tumultuously by the audience below. Then a tantalizing selection of clips from some of her best films were shown, including *Shall We Dance*, *Vivacious Lady*, *Goldiggers of '33*, *Kitty Foyle* (for which she won an Oscar as Best Actress against competition that included Katherine Hepburn, Bette Davis, and Joan Fontaine), *Roxie Hart*, *Once Upon a Honeymoon*, *Lady in the Dark*, *Weekend at the Waldorf*, and *The Barkleys of Broadway*.

Rogers, 73, then came on stage to answer questions from the audience asked by the host, writer Niven Busch, and by the audience directly. She told some behind the scenes anecdotes, expressed her opinion, and lost her cool only once when she asked a cameraman to stop filming because it was forbidden in her agreement with the Festival.

Among the things we learned were:

- She and her mother discovered Ethel Merman and were instrumental in getting her the "I Got Rhythm" role in *Girl Crazy*.
- The dedication to fashion and style of the day prevented

many of her gowns from rising high enough so we might see her dancing footwork.

- The dance scene of "The Continental" seen on the Academy Awards show recently was the 89th take, filmed at 4:30 in the morning.

- Asked if she got to keep any of her wardrobe, she replied, "Honey, after you've danced in a dress 89 times, you don't want to take it home."

- She is currently living on her ranch near Medford, Oregon, on the Rogue River where she loves to fish. But fishing and acting take second place now that she is writing her memoirs.

- The director of the film *Lady in the Dark* ruined the Kurt Weill-Ira Gershwin musical. "He liked the frosting but forgot the cake," Rogers noted about the lavish Technicolor musical.

- "Yes, Fred steps on my toes, and please don't ask me the next question."

Ever the lady, Rogers would prefer it if the world remained the simple planet it was during her Hollywood Golden Days. That doesn't mean she's danced out, but that she's merely waiting for the right dance to come along again.



Ginger Rogers (r.) faces the music at the Castro Theater. (Photo: Rink)

BOOK RACK

Marital Bliss

The Married Homosexual Man: A Psychological Study

by Michael W. Ross
Routledge & Kegan Paul; paper

by Frank Howell

"All that is left is to pretend. But to pretend to the end of one's life is the highest torment." So wrote the composer, Peter Tchaikovsky, following his marriage to his student, Antonina Milyukov, in 1877. How common is such a conclusion amongst males with homosexual tendencies who have married in the century since Tchaikovsky wrote?"

His name was Jerry. He became my closest straight friend in college. We did virtually everything together, outside of classes. Our friendship was warm and close. But during our senior year Jerry met a wonderful girl named Jane and began to spend more time with her. During our senior year Jerry and Jane married. I was the best man.

After college I attempted to maintain the bond between us. But visiting Jerry and Jane in their new home, I noticed that our conversations were increasingly placid. They were no longer interested in discussing the vital issues of the day. We had plunged into lively debates in those halcyon days of late night bull sessions. But now Jerry and Jane talked about lawn care, baby formula, and shopping hints. I realized a watershed had been reached. There was no hostility, but the relationship had outlived its usefulness. The bond was broken.

So we must face facts. Straight married folk are different from us. There are kids to be raised and a social facade to keep up. Certain kinds of gaps can never be bridged. This brings us to the heartaches and joys of the Gay male attempting a delicate tap dance between two worlds.

As Michael Ross, a senior demonstrator in psychiatry (Finders University, Adelaide, Australia) tells us, some Gays can adjust to straight role-playing and others flee into the night.

In 1978 Ross sampled such men in Sweden, Finland, and Australia. Some of these unions

had lasted at least seventeen years, but on the average such coupling endured only six years. But he also cites cases of apparently complete success. One man, 53, has been married to the same woman for thirty years.

Evidently such things can be worked out, but disaster is far from infrequent.

Sixty-three percent of those studied who were separated and had lovers and twenty-two percent of the men who were still married were involved in a lover relationship.

It is admirable that such studies are undertaken, but in this case there is much fuss over nothing. In his concluding chapter Ross seems to admit that he didn't find out much of anything significant. He merely sums up a lot of common sense in the ponderous style of a college outline series, i.e. Gays marry because of social pressure and also because they desire children; they should be counseled and given support; they should try to compromise with their wives.

We can only assume an average American sample would yield similar results.

We hope more action and less analysis will result from this particular piece of research. What is needed is more openness and less homophobia.

Gay men, and women too, should continue to try harder for a total commitment to a Gay union. But there are still those individuals who can succeed in a heterosexual marriage. As the saying goes, however, "Never complain, never explain." ■

Too Wild for Wilde?

Teleny

a novel attributed to Oscar Wilde
Gay Sunshine Press; \$7.95

by Marv. Shaw

The French are wont to say, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." Their point is illustrated by this century-old piece of erotica *curiosa*. Much of what you will find in the Straight-to-Hell series is here: the symmetrical bods, the muscles, the gigantic cocks, the multiple orgasms, the orgies, and all the expected variations of the use of the mouth and the asshole. But are there any significant differences to draw a reader to this piece of hothouse Victoriana?

Well, the central structure is romantic: the passionate affair between an upper class young Englishman and a brilliant Hungarian pianist (Teleny). The latter is the sophisticate who leads his novice into self-recognition and inflamed fulfillment, only to turn from him mysteriously. The agonies of longing and despair are as intense as the bliss of attainment. This superheated treatment exaggerates romance to what we see today as camp.

Winston Leyland introduces the work with nineteen pages on its history, along with some evi-

dence that it might very well have been our own Oscar — indeed! — who composed it. The history is interesting, from its late 19th century appearance, through the 1934 French edition, to the present volume, with all the previously expurgated portions restored. But the case for the Wilde authorship is unconvincing.

For one thing, the style is perverted to the point of absurdity. Wilde was disinclined to self-parody, so this sometimes ludicrous prose definitely reduces the probability of his authorship. A few minutes with authentic Wilde in such passages as Dorian Gray's indulgence in his gem collection would demonstrate the difference conclusively.

For another thing, there are several illogical shifts of point of view, artistic lapses that would have been abhorrent to the Master.

There is another point of distraction for the connoisseur of male-to-male porn. Fully half the sex scenes are hetero, some of them violent or otherwise repellent.

The cover sports a cool Oscar in the background, while a bug-eyed Sicilian youth from the Baron von Gloeden collection stares out at us in disbelief before him. Perhaps Gay Sunshine meant it to be camp. ■

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The Wiz

Easin' Down the Yellow Black Road

The Show is Ageless But 'Dorothy' Isn't

by Steve Warren

It's instant nostalgia time as Stephanie Mills' Dorothy follows Brynner's King, Channing's Dolly, Harrison's enry 'iggins, and the Richards' King Arthur to the revival circuit. The only thing that delayed The Wiz — it first opened in 1975 — is that they had to give us time to forget Sidney Lumet's dreadful film version, in which Michael Jackson played Dorothy. Well, he *was* in it — and he *should* have played Dorothy.

Unfortunately, Dorothy isn't as ageless as the other annuity roles. Mills may be Linda Hunt-size, but she has the face of a woman and her voice, never exactly childlike, is maturing nicely for all purposes but this part. We never tired of hearing Judy sing "Over the Rainbow," but it would have been ludicrous of her to try it in character once she left her teens.



The Good Witch Addaperle (John-Ann Washington) points the way to Oz for Dorothy (Stephanie Mills) in *The Wiz*, now playing at the Orpheum Theatre.

What the hell, believability never was the long suit of *The Wizard of Oz* in any form. *The Wiz* adds soul to the fantasy of the book and the camp of the 1939 movie. Geoffrey Holder's direction gives it the pace of a rock video and his costumes are the show's strongest single element.

Peter Wolf designed new scenery for this revival. It's pretty weak for much of the first act, but builds to some spectacular settings including a "Holy mackerel, Kingfish, can dey do dat?" climax. It's a great show for kids, despite a few *double-endres* and flashing monkey butts (can dey do dat, too?), and

a loss of innocence regarding the significance of poppies.

Gregg Baker is a brave Lion, and Howard Porter is never wooden as the Tinman. Charles Valentino disappointed me as the Scarecrow. The first one I saw on Broadway was so loose-limbed his legs might really have

been stuffed with straw. By comparison Valentino is as stiff as the Tinman before his lube.

John-Ann Washington is a hoot-and-a-half as Addaperle, the campy Good Witch of the North. Marvin Engran combines bad news with good moves to steal his brief scene, and siren-voiced Carl Hall, last seen here in *Street Dreams*, is a joy in the title role, even if one of his solos, "Y'all Got It!" is completely unintelligible.

Three songs have been added to the second act, two of them mediocre and the third, a solo by Dorothy, downright boring. There are local references and topical jokes but they haven't worked in "Where's the beef?"

... yet.

The *Wiz* isn't one of my favorite shows, but this is a first-class production and first-nighters responded with the enthusiasm it deserves (and then some). If you only know Stephanie Mills through her dance records you should go to hear how she can really sing, but let's hope she'll soon find a vehicle where she can also act — her age.

Meanwhile, stand by for Andrea McArdle in the revival of *Annie*.

The Wiz
Orpheum Theatre
Through May 13; 474-3800

FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

Wild Style

Ghetto Graffiti

Who are the folk artists who paint graffiti on the subways and walls of New York?

According to Charlie Ahearn's *Wild Style*, they're part of a Third World subculture which includes the rap scene — the funny, funky, 50's-deejay talk set to music with break dancing that defies several laws of physics. Graffiti and rapping are joined at the hip.

This is a film about poetry in the ghetto — the verbal kind represented by rapping and the visual by camerawork that glamorizes even unpainted slums. What shapes up as a potential rumble turns into a rap basketball game in a brilliant sequence.

The focal point of the story is Zoro, the last outlaw graffitiist. The others have formed a union

and are being paid for their work (which then become "murals" instead of graffiti), but he insists that danger is an integral part of his art. His role is neither written nor acted well. Apparently, Ahearn thought, it was preferable to hire a painter and hope he could act instead of trying to teach an actor to paint. "Lee" George Quinones fits in with the film's naturalistic style, but a better performance in the lead would have raised the whole project to a higher level.

One of four camera operators was Greta Schiller, who has worked on a number of Gay films including *Greetings from Washington, D.C.* and the forthcoming *Before Stonewall*, about Gay life in the U.S. before there was a movement.

Wild Style gives us White folks a fascinating glimpse at a world we might not otherwise be exposed to.

(York) S. Warren

Iceman

The Early Terrestrial

If you're into May-December romances you'll love *Iceman*, a story of male bonding between one man in his 20's and another in his late 40,000's.

Timothy Hutton is the anthropologist who befriends the 40,000-year-old man discovered by an Arctic research team. There's a triangle, but it's more political than romantic. Biologist Lindsay Crouse wants to take the "iceman" apart to see what made our ancestors tick.

While each scientist at the Arctic research station who thaws Charlie, as he comes to be known, is concerned with his or her specialty, Hutton is given time to get close. He and Charlie play together like children, recalling "E.T." and Elliott in their attempts to

communicate.

Greystoke tried to make a statement about our origins, but failed because it glossed over the transition from primitive to civilized. *Iceman* is about that transition, and is far more interesting.

John Lone makes a stunning screen debut in the title role, expressing human feeling as well as quasi-animal instinct. Australian director Fred Schepisi, who made the Gay film *The Devil's Playground* early in his career, maintains a delicate balance between our emotions and our intellect.

The inevitable ending suggests that Charlie will be mercifully spared such sequels as *Iceman Goes Hawaiian* and *Iceman Meets Godzilla*. What do you expect? Nobody lives forever. ■

(Regency 3) S. Warren

Susan Sullivan, Nora Hefflin

...tickles the funny bone and tugs the heart strings... rich with warm biting humor and poignancy."

Bernard Weiner
SF Chronicle

"It is a beautiful play. Go see it."

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The *Iceman* as played by John Lone.

Two Sam Shepard One-Acts

'Superstitions' Runs On; 'Pecos Bill' Laments

by Michael Lasky

You know you are watching avant garde theater when a play opens with strange sounds in the dark and when characters ramble on about whatever pops into their mind and you're not really sure what it is they are talking about but you listen, transfixed, anyway because you are either polite or because you think that maybe, just maybe, you can make some sense out of it. (The reader paused and tried to figure out what he just read and then continued.)



O-Lan Shepard (r.) and Mark Petrakis in *The Sad Lament of Pecos Bill on the Eve of Killing His Wife*, part of Sam Shepard's double bill now playing at the Magic Theatre.

Superstitions is about the quirks people develop as defense mechanisms, and is told in "impressionistic vignettes" that keep us interested, if not because of their content, which is only occasionally lucid, but because actors Mark Petrakis and O-Lan Shepard are so natural with their stream of consciousness dialogue. Added to this is a whimsical musical score cum sound effects that augments and (in musical terms) defines the characters' thoughts and moods. Occasionally the pair will burst into country/western-type songs which maintain a raw, electric energy that prevents what is essentially a talkfest from boring us to lullaby land.

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week

by Michael Benzry

Friday-Saturday, April 27-28: (Roxie) Streamers. Three buddies in the army are shaken when a stranger accuses one of being Gay. Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean. At a reunion, old friends face their lonely Gay and straight lives.

Monday, April 30: (Strand) You Are Not Alone. At a boys school in Denmark, two boys lead a strike, fight the locals, and fall in love. Exceptional. The Best Way. At a boys summer camp in France, two counselors, one macho and one sensitive, compete to see who is the stronger and the Gayer.

Wednesday-Saturday, May 2-5: (Cedar) Some Like It Hot. Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon in drag hiding from the mob with Marilyn Monroe hiding nothing. Hilarious. The Women. Joan Crawford and Norma Shearer fight over a man.

The music composed by Catherine Stone and Shepard becomes even more prominent in the second one-acter, the 15-minute *The Sad Lament of Pecos Bill on the Eve of Killing His Wife*. Using the tall tale of Pecos Bill, credited with digging the Rio Grande with his hands and teaching the bronco to buck, *The Sad Lament* . . . takes Shepard's poetry as a libretto for a sort of two-penny opera. The tale is about how Pecos married Bluefoot Sue, who he saw one day riding her giant catfish down the Rio Grande. But somehow she was bucked by his horse, Widowmaker, right up into the Milky Way. The only way he could get her down was to shoot her down. Alas, it's a sad tall tale and is treated as a cross between comedy, complete with a giant catfish on rollers, and turn-of-the-century melodrama with all its exaggerated gestures.

The story is told entirely in twangy country-flavored song that accentuates the folksiness of the legendary tale. While O-Lan Shepard and Mark Petrakis are not primarily singers, they certainly keep our interest, if not the tunes — which wander about, anyway.

The production of both early Shepard plays as performed by the Overtone Theatre group at the Magic Theatre is lean, but the starkness matches the thoughts and words of one of America's more innovative playwrights.

The two plays don't particularly have much to say, but seem profound anyway, most likely because of the energetic presentation and peculiar and oddly likable music. (The reader put down the copy of *B.A.R.* for a moment and reflected. "Yes, of course," he was heard to mutter as he went back to the paper. ■)

Two Sam Shepard One-Acts
Magic Theatre
441-8822

Raven's Seedling

Script Falters, but the Production's A Gem

by Bernard Spunberg

So who needs a coherent script? *Raven's Seed*, an anti-nuke musical by Stephen Most currently in production at the People's Theatre Coalition, pits animals against humans in an effort to save the world from nuclear annihilation. Composer Mark Kennedy's sultry calypso tunes for the animals and old-time vaudeville ditties for the humans are respectively beautiful and entertaining. Blandly sincere songs for the girl ingenue are just that, but the play suffers from problems more serious than occasional wimpiness.

Raven's Seed trails loose ends of plot. Worse, playwright/lyricist Most reduces his bad guys — human scientists — to clowns. Only his noble animals possess any depth of emotion. Simplistic characterization reduces *Raven's Seed* to a trivial cartoon rather than a work to think about and remember.

The production, however, is something else. Allan Curreri's set evokes forest and laboratory with poetry and comic flair. Lydia Tanji's costumes project character and a joyous sense of fantasy. Her use of materials, ranging from silver lame to shredded chiffon, reflects vivid imagination supported by craftsmanship. Tony Pellegrino's masks for the animals just about steal the show. Raven, Bear, Coyote, and Salmon are each represented by works of art that — for once — compensate with color, wit, and beauty for what is lost in covering actors' faces. Jaime James' lavishly inventive direction keeps the actors in constant motion.

Rob Robinson brings energy and sympathy to the pivotal role of the street-wise Raven. Kristie Beatman's alluring Salmon swims sinuously, and Angelo Pagan's jive-talking Coyote generates real emotion while avoiding stereotypical cliché. Jan Marie Baldwin's Loon squawks magisterially. Kristi Johnson's

Bear, dying of radiation poisoning, evokes strong emotions as she feebly cries and scratches the ground.

Michael De Martini and Chuck Hilbert face unbeatable competition in the roles of the scientists, whom playwright Most models after Laurel and Hardy. Trouble is, Laurel and Hardy played Laurel and Hardy pretty well, and imitations tend to look like imitations. Furthermore, the L&H style requires a pace slower than that of *Raven's Seed*. De Martini and Hilbert are tirelessly energetic and very funny, but they are forced to rush through routines that require elegance, delicacy, and a sense of all the time in the world.

Marabina Davila's pale ingenue weakens the ensemble. Her singing is tentative. Her personality lacks power sufficient to affect the course of the plot. She needs to be radiant, but she can't get past cute.

What about those loose ends of plot? Why does the Raven, determined to rid the earth of plutonium, abandon his bow and arrow and swallow a lump of the stuff? Why does the play even continue after the scientists' TV monitors have shown nuclear bombs going off everywhere? Don't ask.

Raven's Seed
People's Theatre Coalition
Through June 3; 776-8999

"Quite unlike anything that's gone before... Out camps 'LA CAGE AUX FOLLES!'"

—Bruce Williamson, *Playboy Magazine*

"Privates On Parade" is something seldom seen in movies — a melodramatic farce that comes complete with songs, dances, lewd jokes, sudden death, teary sentiment and smashing performances. The scale is small, but the effect is large and lethally funny."

—Vincent Canby, *N.Y. Times*



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TALES OF TESSI TURA

A Dancer's Turning Point

Kirk Peterson, Choreographer

'Cloudless Sulphur' Opening Will Debut Peterson as Director of the Dance

by George Heymont

The evening of Wednesday, May 1, the San Francisco Ballet presents the world premiere of Kirk Peterson's new ballet, *Cloudless Sulphur*. The evening marks a turning point in Peterson's career: his first step in the transition from performer to choreographer. Peterson has spent the past 16 years as a principal dancer for the Harkness Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and the San Francisco Ballet. Proving one's worth as a performer is hard enough. But ballet is doubly difficult: The dancer can look forward to professional obsolescence by age 40.

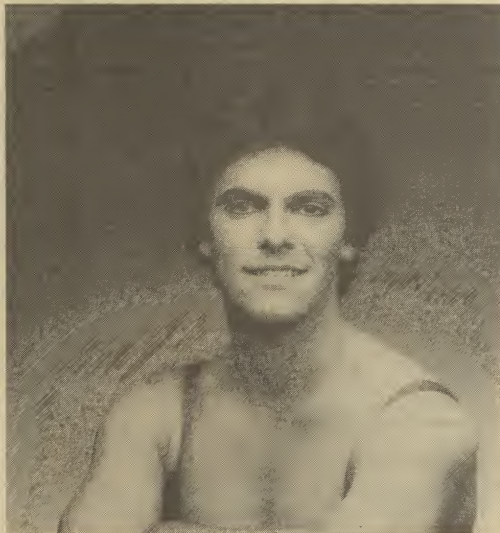
"Many people don't understand the sacrifices an artist makes to stay in this ridiculous lifestyle," Peterson said. "When you go through a series of training experiences in any other field, those courses are designed to give you a marketable craft which will be needed throughout your life. That's a much more secure situation than ballet. Even if you think you're a talented dancer, you really don't know for sure until you get your first job and are taken into a company."

Many dancers express a desire to choreograph, but not all have the talent or skills for the job.

"I've always had that special kind of imagination which allowed me to pull steps together or create movement from scratch," Peterson said. "Even at 15, I knew I had a feeling for choreography, had the desire to express myself and wanted to be recognized for it. I've been dancing now for 30 years, have had a really tough career and have survived tremendously hard tours while performing an extraordinarily diverse repertoire. As a result, I've got tendonitis in both my knees, have been in traction for my back and have sprained both ankles three times each."

"There are nights when I can't sleep because my legs ache so badly. So, in a way, I'm looking forward to the day when I no longer dance on a continuing basis. I mean, if you just do barre exercises and take class every day then your body feels very good. But when you rehearse from 10 a.m. until 10:30 or 11 at night, pain becomes a major factor in your 24-hour day. The older you get, the more of a problem that becomes."

Had it not been for the San Francisco Ballet's resident cho-



Kirk Peterson (Photo: R. Legname)

fore anyone in the company knew about it) that Baryshnikov was taking over as artistic director. I knew that Baryshnikov was not fond of me," said the 34-year-old dancer. "I eventually got a phone call in which Misha said 'There's nothing I can give you to dance so I can't offer you a contract next year.' That next season they did *Push Comes to Shove*, *Sphinx*, and *Prodigal Son* — all roles that I had danced with the company."

"What he basically said was 'Get lost,' and I have not spoken to Misha since that day. To have the rug pulled out from underneath me like that was very hurtful and disturbing, especially after I had put so much effort and energy into ABT. This year, when he passed me in the hallway of our new school on Frank-

Choreographing *Cloudless Sulphur* has had to be done while learning other repertoire (including a solo in Smuin's new ballet entitled *To The Beatles — A Work in Progress*).

"Retaining other repertoire doesn't bother me, it's not a problem. Somehow or other it stays there. I used to have a photographic memory for choreography and, in one viewing, could instantly learn what someone showed me. So I don't spend a lot of time thinking about what I've just been taught in class an hour ago because I've already assimilated it and put it into my body memory. And, because of the intensity of what we do, dancers tend to be much more relaxed about life than many other people. We accept difficulties with greater finesse and are able to take traumas — and dramas — much more easily than 'normal people' can."

"When I start a piece of choreography the music dictates a skeletal frame. The more I listen to the music, the more solid that frame becomes. I don't mind editing out things which don't work. In fact, I'll drop whole chunks of a section of choreography in favor of a new idea," Peterson said. His choreography, however, has proven difficult for some of the dancers to learn. As a child, Peterson used to imitate the ways various insects moved, and Peterson now claims his ideas are strongly influenced by an intense life-long passion for field zoology. To complicate matters even further, Subotnick's drone-like electronic score is a far cry from the melodic lyricism of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*.

"That's why I like to work with dancers who are extremely smart and have good memories!" said Peterson, as he listened to the electronic burps and squeaks emanating from Subotnick's score.

"That man (Baryshnikov) ruined a section of my life . . . He totally destroyed my future in New York."

reographers program, Peterson's creative talents might never have reached the public. He had expected his professional debut as a choreographer to take place in another place at another time.

"My first workshop piece was done before Lucia Chase, Oliver Smith, and a lot of people on American Ballet Theatre's administration. It was aimed to let them know that I was interested in doing choreography. Lucia loved that ballet," he said. "She was genuinely very impressed by it."

"So I was gearing up toward staying at ABT. After all, I had worked for almost seven years to carve out a niche for myself in that company, was already teaching company class and thought my future there was safe. Then came that infamous announcement in the press (be-

lin Street, Misha actually said hello to me. I was appalled. I had no idea he would ever speak to me. Nor did I want him to — nor do I ever want him to! That man ruined a section of my life. Altered it irrevocably. He totally destroyed my future in New York and, because of the pain that I associate with him, he's not someone I want to deal with anymore."

One of the carrots with which Michael Smuin lured Peterson to the San Francisco Ballet was the company's resident choreographers program. As a company dancer, however, the 5'8" Peterson was in for a big shock. "San Francisco Ballet is an inordinately tall dance troupe. At my first company class I looked around and thought, 'Oh my God, I'm in the land of the giants!'"

FROM FIFTH POSITION

Dancing Between the Lines

I am always amazed to learn that there are dance and musical show fans living in San Francisco who still have not seen Ann Marie Garvin's *Dance Between the Lines* at the Music Hall Theatre. As many times as I've seen the revue during the past several years, going to the Music Hall is like visiting old friends — though now, in its third anniversary week, the show has evolved far beyond its original conception.

Garvin's staging is extremely fast, and her spectrum of dance styles dense with detail. The smallish stage can barely contain the high energy it is subjected to, and the fallout can easily (and delightfully) overwhelm the audience. This may account for the fact that the show's press notices have come almost exclusively from San Francisco's *theater* critics. Most of our dance reviewers depend both on stylistic simplicity and periods of repose to allow for analysis, but *Dance Between the Lines* stops for nothing.

New dance routines musically update the show, adding "Maniac" and "Flashdance" from last year's movie, and "He's a Dream," a number used experimentally in Garvin's show *Hi Tech* in a limited run last Fall. Speaking of dreams, new cast member Tony Bernard definitely

falls in that category. Young, compact, and winsome, Bernard's heavier-than-usual muscularity (for a dancer) yields exceptionally clean, legible movement. Eddie Avila, another new addition, raps and breaks with the best of them. It was good to see Sally Van Loon back in the show following her lengthy recovery from an injury, and veteran Ric Mount, now giving singing a try, turns out to have the best male voice to be heard in the show.

★ ★ ★

Traditionally a yearly event given primarily for the benefit of the parents whose children study there, the San Francisco Ballet School Showcase is becoming a more formal affair with each passing year. The company's luxurious new building on the corner of Franklin and Fulton is said to have allowed the school showcase to expand to its present scale — so grand that it warrants an engagement in the Opera House.

The joy of this event (and the glory of the San Francisco Ballet School) is the discipline achieved

by the children of the youngest levels. One still bemoans the fact that so few boys are beginning ballet training at this stage: Classes 1B, 1C, 2B, 3, and 4 had only one or two boys each, in groups of 18 to 20 girls. Ethnic diversity, too, seemed quite limited in view of the ethnic variety that typifies San Francisco.

Unfortunately, the charm of the children only rarely transmutes into joyful dancing at the advanced levels. The boys are more spontaneous than the girls at these ages, Keith Savage showing a bouyant, lightning allegro and Christopher Anderson partnering his young ballerina with strength and skill, then tearing off a spectacular series of pirouettes. Finally, there was the astonishing technical prowess of Joanna Berman to consider. Why Berman has not been inducted into the San Francisco Ballet is unfathomable.

★ ★ ★

Forthcoming dance events of particular interest:

- April 25-28, Charles Moulton & Dancers: Contemporary dance from New York (The New Performance Gallery)
- April 24-29, San Francisco Ballet: Program VI, May 1-6, Program VII (War Memorial Opera House)
- May 3-5, Lines - A Dance Company: Contemporary ballet (New Performance Gallery) ■



Gregory De Silva, dancer and assistant choreographer of *Dance Between the Lines*. De Silva is currently at work on the film *Gold*, scheduled for filming in Hong Kong this year.

Gay March Opens Headquarters

The National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights has officially opened its headquarters at 2301 Market St., suites A, B, and C (at the corner of Market and Noe). An open house celebration will be held Friday, April 27 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Everyone is invited and there is no cost to attend. Snacks will be provided, as well as a no-host bar.

The next general meeting of the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights will be held on Wednesday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th Street (at Valencia). Volunteers are needed on all committees. Please plan to attend. For additional information call 863-5005.

The National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights has also issued a list of tentative demands to all sponsoring organizations nationwide, for their suggestions/approval. Final ratification of demands list will be made at the next general meeting May 9.

Quips & Quotes

by Woolly

Billy Baldwin, Dean of American Decorators, for drag queens everywhere: "The word that almost makes me throw up is satin; damask makes me throw up."

Rock Hudson: "The good thing about resisting temptation is that you feel so great afterward. Besides, you'll probably get another shot at it in 40 minutes or so."

Helen Gurley Brown: "An orgasm is like vitamin C. The body can't store it. . . You have to keep getting a new fix."

Coco Chanel quoted by Joseph Barry: "Beware of mirrors. They can reflect only the image we have of ourselves."

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PETER KEANE

Several new releases have come my way. They range from good to excellent, and while most are available only on import, it's worth the time, effort, and extra bucks to search them out.

• **Echo & The Bunnymen:** *Silver/Devils & Angels* (Korova 12"). More seductive pop than my current favorites. Can these guys do no wrong? "Silver" was previewed at the band's recent Warfield show. More lively and less hypnotic than "The Killing Moon," it benefits from a lush, string-laden treatment and impassioned vocals. This one will send them over the top, chart-wise. "Devils & Angels," a less interesting piece of relentless psychedelia, was recorded a mere month ago at Folsom Street's Automatt. These guys move fast! This is their third 12" in a row — only makes me eager for a new album.

• **Depeche Mode:** *People Are People/In Your Memory* (Mute 7"). Expansive production, with emphasis on both synthetic and acoustic percussion, underscores a killer song. Message with a beat. The complaint that synth-pop is too thin and mechanical is currently being given the lie by bands like Depeche Mode. The return to idealism in rock music, typified by such bands as U2 and the (overrated) Alarm, is every bit as evident here. Strong, exuberant, and good.

• **Propaganda:** *Nine Lives of Dr. Mabuse/Into Battle With the Art of Noise* (ZTT Records). State-of-the-art producer's technology from Trevor Horn, the man who's given us the Buggles, ABC, and more recently, Yes

and Frankie Goes to Hollywood. As with all his projects, it's hard to say where the musicians left off and Horn picked up. He will shamelessly use every trick at his disposal to gussy things up, creating scratch, hip-hop, funk, and fun sleight-of-hand from even the thinnest of raw material. Propaganda is a case in point. The A-side of its record, "Dr. Mabuse" is a good, if typical, art-rock song given a straightforward treatment. The B-side, however, is a wild and witty amalgam of things — starts and stops, repeated vocals

and whispers, atonal strings, even a Velvet Underground song. Great fun. "Into Battle" is a mini-lp full of such nonsense — what Malcolm McLaren's "Duck Rock" would have sounded like if he wasn't such a witless plagiarist.

Horn is the man with the Midas Touch. His ZTT label, which is relatively new, snatches up some good acts. Check these two out, for starters.

• **Siouxsie & the Banshees:** *Swimming Horses/Let's Go* (Wonderland 7" and 12"). Geffen Records seems intent on signing every English band that doesn't get signed to Sire first. No matter, though; Geffen has exonerated itself by signing XTC and Siouxsie & the Banshees. Siouxsie's domestic lp won't be

released for a few months, so this single will suffice 'til then. Seductive as ever, the band continues in the vein it's been mining since '77's "Hong Kong Garden." Less noisy now, Siouxsie opts for atmosphere, with spatial sound and evocative poetry. The 7" B-side is a beautiful mood piece, "Let's Go." The Banshees will be at the Warfield July 4; a strong recommendation. The band's I-Beam show two years ago is legend, so don't miss this one.

• **Bonnie Hayes:** *Brave New Girl* (Bondage Records). Local girl makes good. On her own terms, too. Lesser regional talents have gone on to fame and fortune, while Hayes can't even seem to get arrested in her home town. Dropped from her record

label after one good, but derivative, album, Hayes decided the D.I.Y. approach was best. So she recorded this 6-track albumette in her manager's basement and released it on her own Bondage label. Her songs are clever and pleasant, steering clear of the Go-Go's/Cyndi Lauper school. My favorites are "Incommunicado," with its woozy treated piano riffs, and the Rickie Lee Jones-inspired "After Hours." (Please come home, Rickie Lee. All is forgiven.) Without benefit of big-label starmaking machinery, I only hope this record gets the exposure it deserves.

• **Robert Gori:** *Night Full of Tension* (Mute lp). Gori's previous band, Teutonic synth-duo DAF, paved the way for the likes of Human League, Soft Cell, and the Eurythmics. So it's only fitting the latter's Annie Lennox helps out on vocals on this record. Here, Gori loosens up with smooth, melodic textures. There are dance numbers, to be sure, but some offbeat material, too: a 13th century medieval German poem set to music, and an ode to Gori's cat Charlie, sung with alarming sexuality by Lennox. Night Full of Tension won't find Gori any new fans, but it's a must for DAF fans.

• **Smiths:** *This Charming Man/Accept Yourself & Wonderful Woman* (Rough Trade 12"). A bonus for Smiths fans — two versions of "This Charming Man," along with two previously unreleased songs on the B-side. "Accept Yourself" is a Byrds-like rocker, while "Wonderful Woman" is a slower, mesmerizing song. Both top drawer. So when are these guys going to play the Bay Area? ■

Thanks to Jack Johnston of WARD for supplying most of the above records.



Echo & The Bunnymen

TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE

From a Whisper to a Scream

JERRY DE GRACIA

Now that rock is officially middle-aged it comes as no surprise that it occasionally repeats itself, most often as remakes of earlier classics. Three recent covers were the standard "girl group" hits "My Boyfriend's Back," "Bobby's Girl," and "Uptown."

It's hard to ruin such simplistic but catchy standards, especially with today's recording technology. The fact they were recorded again exposes the obvious — that musical creativity is not a prerequisite for a recording artist. These latest versions, as well as much of the material being recorded in general, are served up as the prime rib of new music when they are nothing more than mashed potatoes.

Admittedly, some recordings succeed as camp, but too often fail because poor material is just that. Icicle Works, a self-titled debut album from another European band (what else?) contains some excellent new material. The band's sound, unashamedly stolen from the current trend, is unique nonetheless when woven into the material. The uptempo "Whisper To A Scream" reverberates with careless energy as well as lyrical emotion and stands out as the best cut off the lp. The three musicians comprising Icicle Works play upon each other's talent to the maximum benefit of their music throughout this well-produced collection.

European music does not totally dominate the best of new music, although it does have a big share of the market. That is why singer Nona Hendryx stands out even more as she continues to strut her classy funk and guts style on *The Art of Defense*, her latest release. Proving that she could burn rubber on a tricycle, Hendryx does not let up from the opening notes of "I Sweat (Going Through The Motions)" to the end of side two. The lp is packed with enough electricity to curl Boy George's hair, which isn't a bad idea. (I mean, can we kvetch? That cover picture on *People* magazine makes him look like Liz Taylor after a week of solid drinking with the chicken bone still stuck in her throat.) Maybe he should work out with Nona Hendryx and tumble a little of that cellulite off.

San Francisco's own Huey Lewis and The News finally have it totally together on *Sports* ("I Need A New Drug," "The Heart of Rock and Roll") and it's light years away from its first lp, which sucked. It proves that you can't keep a hot band or a hot man down. He may not be your type, but personally, if all he needs is a new drug, I'm taking up pharmacology.

As for the potatoes a la carte, Moby Dick recording artist Mary Buffet does justice to the Angels' "My Boyfriend's Back" and the production is commend-

able, but it would be a hard song to wreck. Even the version with guys singing "My Boyfriend's Back" had appeal. The "Get Off My Case" Comateens did just as well with its version of "Uptown." Tracy Ullman, on the other hand, should stick to oral sex. Her remake of "Bobby's Girl" from the lp *U2 Broke My Heart in Seventeen Places* is pathetic, but then so is the entire album.

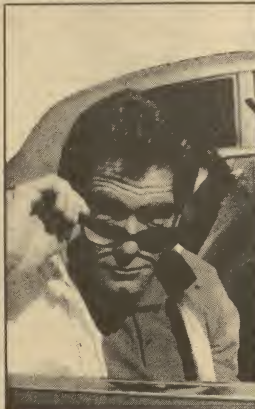
"Say You," a new release by Colourbox, is interesting but doesn't grab you hard enough to roll over. The same goes for "The Colour Field" by The Colour Field, which gives too much U-2, Echo & The B-Men and not enough diversity to make you want to switch. They do it well, but it's been done.

TOP 25, WARD CHARTS

When the dj spins Cyndi Lauper's "Girls Just Want To Have Fun" at the Trocadero, the crowd jams the dance floor playfully, reminiscent of, but not as hedonistic as, the disco crowds of the late '70s.

The tweaked to the tits, "popper in each nostril" discophiles have been supplanted by a more cautious crowd these days (except for the White Party last weekend, rumor has it) but the spirit of it all is still around. Although dance clubs, their patrons, the dj's and the music have gone through serious adjustments, the atmosphere of freedom and orgasmic dancing remains . . . a little ragged in places, but still functional.

The vinyl factor in San Francisco's Gay club scene is the dj and his or her collective entity — the dj pool. The two pools, TOP



Huey Lewis, a pharmacologist's dream.

25 and WARD (Western Association of Rock DJ's), reflect changes in musical styles and stars as well as Gay musical preferences through their respective charts.

In the past, the two pools have often appeared diametrically opposed, with WARD charting the more rock oriented sounds and TOP 25 charting the more R&B, Disco oriented material. This difference seems to be dissipating as new music, in the continuing battle to cross over to a wider audience, more and more merges rock instrumentation and attitude with basic dance rhythms.

Recent pool charts reflect how much closer the two groups have come and where Gay musical tastes have headed since the days when Donna Summer reigned and "Rock The Boat" ruled.

TOP 25

1. Girls Just Want to Have Fun
Cyndi Lauper
2. Dancing in the Streets
Shalamar
3. Hold Me Now
Thompson Twins
4. Borderline
Madonna
5. They Only Come Out at Night
Peter Brown
6. Come Out of Hiding
Pamela Stanley
7. You Might Think
The Cars
8. It's My Life
Talk Talk
9. Rhumba My Sensations
Peek
10. I Want A New Drug
Huey Lewis

WARD

1. Collapsing New People
Fad Gadget
2. AMOK!
Ledermacken
3. Sparkle in the Rain
Simple Minds
4. Hyperactive
Thomas Dolby
5. It's My Life
Talk Talk
6. No More Words
Berlin
7. Hold Me Now
Thompson Twins
8. Original Sin
INXS
9. The Killing Moon
Echo & The Bunnymen
10. In A Chamber
Wire Train

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

It's the Tits!

The Perfect Pecs And How They Grew

**It's Calendar King or Bust —
or Both — for Miles Mitchell**

by Charles Linebarger

Miles Mitchell's pecs were all over the press a few months ago when he won the Arena's Bare Chest Contest for March, then donated his prize money to the AIDS Fund. You may remember some of the photos — you may have some of the photos snipped out and pinned to your bulletin board right now.

Mitchell looks as though he were born to win the chest contest, but he wasn't. Miles didn't quite start out as the proverbial 98-pound weakling, but he did weigh in at just 130 pounds four years ago. That's when he began a program to rebuild his body. It worked. Today he weighs in at about 180 — almost all of it solid muscle.

Miles comes from Gilroy, California. He moved to San Francisco in 1967 right out of high school. For a while he worked at the Emporium downtown. Then came a few years of living in Nevada with a lover on a small farm with horses, cows, and chickens. Miles still rides horses today.

"Eleven years ago I came back to San Francisco. I began bartending," Miles said, "and I've worked practically everywhere in this town." Today he works at the Sausalito Inn.

Miles started working out four years ago, when he was 31. He almost never started. He had an accident horseback riding, hurt his shoulder, and the doctors wanted to operate. Instead, Miles followed the advice of friends and began a moderate weight training program to strengthen his shoulder.

The first gym he joined was the Sports Palace, a straight gym in the city. He worked out there for two years before joining the Muscle System on Hayes Street. He made up his own program as he went along. He watched the big guys at the gyms where the big guys train. He asked them questions, read training books (he recommends Bill Pearl's *Keys to Understanding the Universe*) and kept track of what worked for him.

"I work out every day of the week except Sunday and have since I started to work out four years ago," Miles said. "I train strictly with free weights. And I change my program constantly to avoid getting stale and/or bored. By changing my program often I believe I develop faster. I train with a partner, for a while at the Sports Palace this was with a girl who was working up

they have, take steroids. He does. "I got to a standstill after two years of training," he said. "I went to all the big gyms and talked to the really big guys and found out they were taking steroids."

He takes testosterone and the steroid Anadrol. "I stack," he says. "I take shots and pills." He's under a doctor's supervision. And it's not cheap. He gets a shot once a week for six weeks straight, and at the same time takes pills for six weeks. Then he takes two weeks off and decides whether to go back on for another six weeks. He feels that this has given him more muscle growth than he would have gotten without it. He knows about the side effects (possible liver and kidney problems) and takes them in his stride. He wants to get into competition and this is part of what you do to get into that kind of condition, he said.

He works out on a three-way split program. Chest one day, legs and lats the next, and finally shoulders and arms. Working out six days a week, he is able to hit each body part twice a week. His favorite exercises are squats and incline flys. For the squats he wraps his knees in bandages

fortunately, he doesn't put on weight in the stomach. He has a "natural" stomach, which is bodybuilder talk for a body part that looks pretty much the way you want it to without any training. His stomach is naturally rippled and flat — despite the fact that he eats six meals a day. They are not all large meals, but he does have two breakfasts and two dinners. He has to in order to keep up his weight. He's gained fifty pounds of new muscular weight in four years of training.

What is it like to become a "muscle man" in the Gay world? It's not easy, according to Miles.

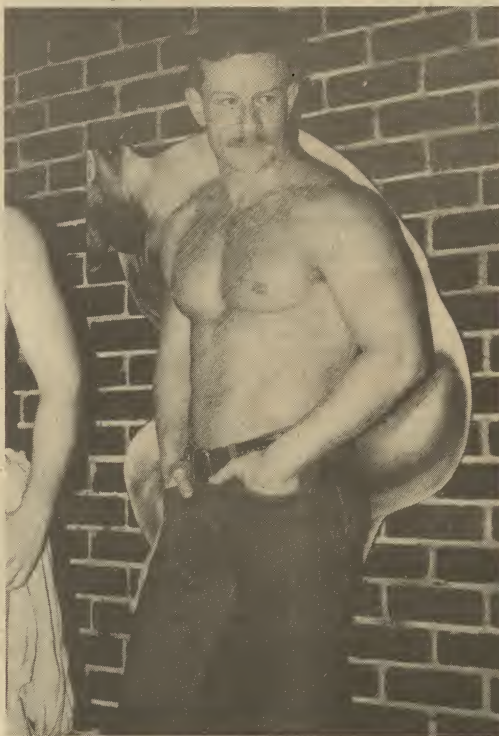
"People's reactions to me started to change. People stopped looking at me, instead they started looking at my body. People became intimidated to come up to me. It became harder to get a date and harder to have a relationship. Most of the guys I date don't train with weights but they immediately start after we start going together.

"My type is someone with a good heart and nice eyes. They are hard to find. I've only dated two guys who work out," Miles said.

Mitchell isn't a gym rat (gym talk for people who do nothing else besides work out). He's interested in banzai and has gone through a period in his life when he raised miniature oak trees. He is still interested in horseback riding and does his riding in Geyserville, where a good friend raises Arabs.

A lot of Gay men accuse bodybuilders of having attitude. I asked Mitchell what his definition of "attitude" is. "Attitude comes from people who are insecure. They see you're in good shape because you put in the time to work out and they automatically put you down. Instead of asking you out on a date, which is what they want to do, it's easier to just put you down and say you have attitude. All I have to do is stand in front of the gym and listen to the comments of the people who pass by. It's all negative. They make fun and put you down, and they say we have attitude."

Of the Arena's Mr. March Bare Chest Contest, which he won, Miles said, "I went in to watch and someone talked me into entering. That's how it happened."



Miles Mitchell (Photo: Mick Hicks)

Mitchell talks freely about the fact that most bodybuilders who want to get into competition, or simply to put on more size than

because "it gives you a little help lifting the weight."

He has to eat constantly, but



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TOM VINDEED

Cha Cha Avoids Bridge Leap!

Googie's, led by its "Kiddy Corps" of Paul Ruehl and Rennis Woods, defeated the DeLuxe, 15-5, for its first win of the season. By doing so, Cha Cha was saved from his promise to jump off the Golden Gate Bridge if his team lost. If only the DeLuxe had tried a little harder! Oh well, maybe some other time.

Sammy gave his whammy to the Phone Booth as he 3-hit the previously undefeated Operators in a 9-2 Moby Dick victory. Frank De Fendis and Denis Geoffrey paced the Whalers to its fourth win.

Dan Carlson's Vagabond gave up too many runs early in the game as the Kokpit breezed to a 13-1 victory. The Ambush drop-

ped Chaps 20-0 in one of those four-inning affairs. Last week the Ambush showed lots of class in its victory over the Rookies, and it should be pointed out to the entire GSL.

Ira Clark showed up at Lang Field with his suitcase, just in case his Trax club lost to those Rookies. We will see Ira again,

(Continued on next page)

GAY TENNIS FEDERATION

Tennis Balls, Like Spring, Are in the Air

by Les Balmain

April is here with showers of tennis balls. The Gay team tennis season is underway with racquets swinging every other weekend. And earlier this month the East Bay hosted a doubles tournament. The particulars:

Team Tennis Opener

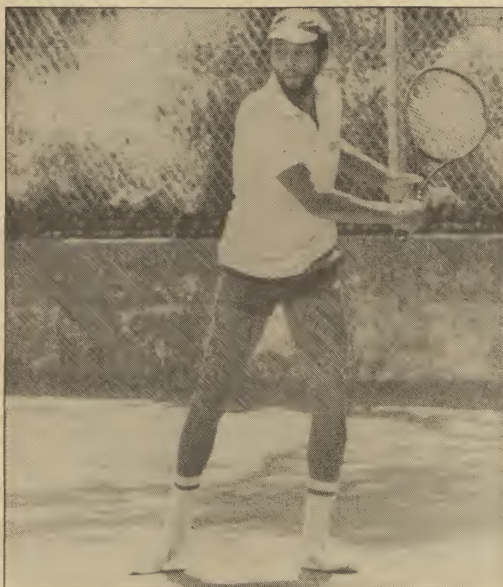
With clear blue skies, a warm tanning sunshine, and a soft gentle breeze, the fourth season of team tennis for the local Gay Tennis Federation was successfully launched the weekend of April 14 and 15. Nine teams are contesting for the championship this year, with play scheduled every other weekend at the 15th Street & Lower Buena Vista Terrace tennis courts.

The big win of round one was Community Rentals defeating Atlas by 51 to 34 games. Nella/Schmidt beat Gay Sports, 43-33; Roto Rooter defeated The White Swallow, 44-36; and Ivy's edged the Pilsner Inn, 39-34. The Bear was idle, drawing a bye.

The team standings as of April 15 are:

1. Community Rentals	51	34	.600
2. Nella/Schmidt	43	33	.566
3. Roto Rooter	44	36	.550
4. Ivy's	39	34	.534
5. Pilsner Inn	34	39	.466
6. White Swallow	36	44	.450
7. Gay Sports	33	43	.434
8. Atlas	34	51	.400
9. The Bear			bye

Following the matches on Sunday, the Gay Tennis Federation members and their guests gathered at The Mint to celebrate with a kick-off party for "Team Tennis 1984." A pot-luck supper was hosted by the members. Shawn Kelly, the president, introduced



Neil Johnson, captain of the Atlas tennis team (Photo: Rink)

the officers of the GTF for 1984: Karl Mote, vice president; Ken Wells, secretary; Dan Hartsuff, treasurer; and Tom Kelly, sergeant of arms.

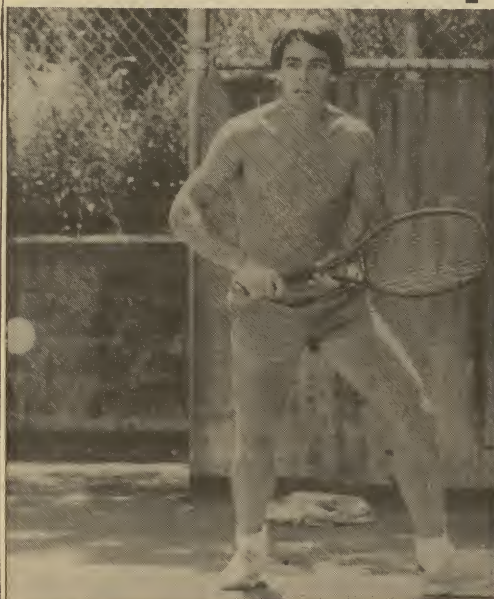
The schedule for round two is: Saturday, April 28, at 9 a.m., The Bear vs. Community Rentals; at 11:30 a.m., the Pilsner Inn vs. Nella/Schmidt. On Sunday, April 29, at 9 a.m., Atlas vs. White Swallow; at 11:30 a.m., Gay Sports vs. Roto Rooter. Ivy's draws a bye.

On a cold and windy morning we arrived at a foreign territory, the Alameda College tennis courts, not knowing of the previous night's downpour, to find our battlefield covered with chilling lakes of rainwater. Gloom . . . we stared at the enemy . . . it stared back . . . cold and ugly. Not a good way to start a tennis tournament. What to do? What else . . . off to the nearest discount store to buy six brooms and then to war! Gay Power housecleaning the courts, and less than an hour later, with the help of the sun and wind, the courts were ready for action.

Thus began the Second Annual Doubles Tournament of the Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco. Last Sunday, April 8, 44 members played round-robin doubles tennis matches all day divided into three classes. There were eight Class A teams, eight Class B teams, and six Class C teams. Each match consisted of one pro-set of eight games with no-ad scoring.

Congratulations go to the following winners:

CLASS A			
1st	Bobby Docena & Gregg McCarty	37	19 .667
2nd	Bill Fisher & David Lewis	32	24 .571
3rd	Karl Mote & David Ongie	32	24 .571
CLASS B			
1st	John Block & Paul Gill	34	22 .607
2nd	Winston Mathews & Aurelio Palmerin	32	24 .571
3rd	Ned Harcombe & Fernando Reyes	31	25 .554
CLASS C			
1st	Mike Teeple & Bruce Waugh	28	12 .700
2nd	Shelly Stone & Brent Weaver	28	12 .700
3rd	Michael Cummings & German Arias	22	18 .550



Gregg McCarty of the Community Rentals tennis team (Photo: Rink)

GSL UPDATE

(Continued from previous page)

as his fine team downed the Rookies, 27-8.

For the second year in a row, the Rawhide upset Pilsner Inn, 3-2. This shocker caught everyone by surprise, as the Rawhide has now won two straight after two early season losses. Pitcher Russell Smith has paced his teammates to both of these wins as the Rawhide has turned its season around.

The final game of the day saw old friends vie against each other as the Cafe Sn. Marcos and The Village battled for the "Golden Axe." If you check The Village bar, you will see the trophy there, as the 18th Street crew defeated the Cafe, 13-4. Everyone on both teams received at least one gift during the game, due to the fact that Mike Tabeling gave both teams beautiful T-shirts to commemorate the game. Thanks, Mikey. There was very little drinking after the game. Uh huh!

This week all games are at balmy Balboa Park, Ocean and San Jose Avenues. Two key games feature Kokpit vs. Moby Dick and The Village vs. The Pendulum.

10 a.m. - Ambush/Vagabond and Trax/Chaps

11:45 a.m. - DeLuxe/Phone Booth and Pilsner Inn/Googie's

1:40 p.m. - Rawhide/Cafe Sn. Marcos and Kokpit/Moby Dick

3:15 p.m. - Village/Pendulum

STANDINGS

Cable Car Division	
Ambush	4-0
Moby Dick	4-0
Pendulum	2-1
Phone Booth	2-1
Rawhide	2-2
Chaps	1-3
DeLuxe	0-5

Golden Gate Division	
Kokpit	4-0
Village	4-0
Pilsner Inn	3-1
Googie's	1-3
Trax	1-3
Vagabond	1-3
Cafe Sn. Marcos	0-3
Rookies	0-4

T. Vindeed

Olympic Gay Housing

The 1984 Summer Games and Arts Festival represents a first for the Olympics and for the Gay community. For the first time, the Olympics are being held in an openly Gay community with Gay participants and visitors from all over the world.

At the center of all the activity is Gay Housing Los Angeles '84 (GHLA '84) which receives approximately 800 referrals a week from the Los Angeles Visitors & Convention Bureau.

Gay Housing Los Angeles '84 (GHLA '84) is arranging tours, tickets to the sports and cultural events and lodging for the Gay visitors who have been making reservations from distant locales as Australia and the United Kingdom. An onslaught of reservations is expected after April 15th, when those who have requested tickets will be notified.

Gay LA is working overtime to put on a new face befitting the Olympic host city. The restaurants and bars of "Gayest LA" are remodeling in anticipation of a summer-long festival of world visitors.

For tour reservations, the best in lodging and tickets to the arts and sports events, call Gay Housing Los Angeles '84 (GHLA '84) — collect if you like — at (213) 938-1984.

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SCOREBOARD

TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES TEAM STANDINGS AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

S.F. WOMEN'S BUSINESS LEAGUE (Sunday) Winter Season Final Standings (Week 26 of 26 - as of 4/15/84) League Average: 691

1. Peg's	33	15
2. Artemis II	33	15
3. Cole Valley Graphics	30½	17½
4. Mabel's of SF	29	19
5. No Money Down	28	20
6. CV Graphics Too	27	17
7. Mona Tong Realty	26	22
8. Maud's Squad	19½	28½
9. Artemis I	19	25
10. Amelia's	15	33
11. You See Flowers	14	34
12. Natural Snacks	10	38

Final: High Scratch Game

Virginia Brusco (RDS)	268
Sara Lewinstein (A-1)	252
Joan Shepard (RDS)	246

Final: High Scratch Series

Joan Shepard (RDS)	645
Bernice Straub (Amelia's)	634
Velda Gooden (Amelia's)	622

TG MONDAY LEAGUE (Week 1 of 25 - as of 4/16/84) League Average: 689

1. New Image	4	0
2. Body Center	4	0
3. Crystal Springs	4	0
4. Galleon	4	0
5. Doris Day Care Cntr	4	0
6. E.C. Midtown Boys	3	1
7. Pendulum I	3	1
8. Team 1	3	1
9. Pilsner Pick-ups	3	1
10. Grand Central Sta.	2	2
11. San Francisco Gym	2	2
12. Perfect Petals	2	2
13. Amazing Six Graces	2	2
14. Renegade	1	3
15. Men's Room	1	3
16. Twin Peaks	1	3
17. Team 7	1	3
18. Park Bowl	0	4
19. Team 4	0	4
20. Global Travel	0	4
21. Team 14	0	4
22. Team 22	0	4

TG WEDNESDAY LEAGUE (Week 3 of 23 - as of 4/18/84) League Average: 732

1. Grady's	11	1
2. Pilsnr Pntless Sisters	9	3
3. Anonymity Reigns	9	3
4. Pilsner I	8½	3½
5. Play With It, Ltd.	8	3
6. Japantown Bowl	7	5
7. Park Bowl	7	5
8. Pendulum	7	5
9. Wed. Washouts	7	5
10. Gay Sports Mag.	7	5
11. Trojan Ends	6	6
12. Stallion Stampede	6	6
13. Scenic Hyway Tours	6	6
14. Pilsner Potlickers	5	7
15. DK's Unmntnbls	5	7
16. Team 17	5	7
17. Pilsner II	4	8

18. Cafe San Marcos	4	8
19. S.F. Eagle	4	8
20. Hr Tdy Gn Tmrw	3½	8½
21. Sweet Inspiration	2	10
22. Animals	1	11

TG THURSDAY LEAGUE (Week 2 of 20 - as of 4/12/84) League Average: 545

1. Park Bowl	7	1
2. Kokpit Angels	7	1
3. Four Winds	5	3
4. Alamo Sq. Sln. #1	4	4
5. Queen Mary's Pub	3	1
6. Pig Pins	2	6
7. Alamo Square #2	0	4
8. 132 Bush	0	8

Bowling scores compiled by Jerry R. De Young.

S.F. POOL ASSOCIATION TEAM STANDINGS (Week 10 of 12 - as of 4/18/84)

DIVISION I

Pendulum Pirates	86-58	.597
White Swallow Storm	84-60	.583
Maud's	77-67	.534
DeLuxe Rebels	73-71	.506
Pilsner Doughboys	67-77	.465
Arena Hellbreds	65-79	.451
Brig Inmates	65-79	.451
Village Tribe	63-81	.437
Pipeline Deaf	43-117	.268

DIVISION II

Rainbow	109-51	.681
Febe's	98-46	.680
Stallion Steeds	89-55	.618
Chaps Outlaws	83-61	.576
White Swlw Wreckers	81-63	.562
Castro Sta. Express	67-77	.465
Peg's Pugs	55-89	.381
Macante's Moondancers	53-91	.368
PB Parallel Pockets	52-92	.361

DIVISION III

Stallion Stampede	90-54	.625
Macante's MARTYRS	82-62	.569
Arena Centurions	76-68	.527
Pendulum Chaos	75-69	.520
Bear Shots	69-75	.479
Febe's Snow	68-76	.472
Village Knights	75-85	.468
Castro Sta. Identification	58-86	.402
Academy Plebes	52-92	.361

DIVISION IV

DeLuxe Spare Tires	99-45	.687
Arena Warriors	81-63	.562
Brig Guards	79-65	.548
Peg's Promises	85-75	.531
Pilsner Ltd.	73-71	.506
Academy Cadets	68-76	.472
Bear Claws	64-80	.444
Maud's Squad	61-83	.423
D.C. Rough Riders	59-85	.409

MON. COMM. LEAGUE BOWL

JERRY R. DE YOUNG

Both Brilliant and Bizarre Bowling

Unusual things have happened so far this season. More bowlers have merited both their 200+ and 600+ pins on the same night than ever before. A greater number of Tavern Guild teams are using numbers instead of names. (Does this indicate a lack of imagination, or are numbers more attractive?) A bowler with a 171 entering average threw two consecutive gutter balls on 4/18 (vertigo?). And, finally, the most bizarre of all. The Animals, after losing eight successive games, had their first win of the Summer Season against the powerful Pendulum, leaving its members totally stunned and demoralized.

On the other side of the coin, the following 15 bowlers must have experienced total elation when they realized that their brilliant performances on the lanes had gained them membership into the exclusive TG WNBL 600+ and 200+ Clubs:

David Turner (620 series)	244
Tyrone Timms	232
Rob Mallin (615 series)	231
Tom Sipple	222
Ron Squires	212
Greg Cassinelli	211
Steve Eidelberg	210
Glen Mautz	209
Don Latt	209
Lew Watson	208
Ralph Bremner	205
Skip Christian	202
Andres Colon	201
Richard Gorecki	200, 200
Simeon Traw	200

This, while not a record, sets a high standard for the weeks to come. Congratulations to each of you — and special congratulations to a new member, David Turner, for such an outstanding TPC so early in the season.

Congratulations to Morgan Chase, who bowled three games of 147, meriting him the first ABC triplicate patch of the '84 Summer Season.

What's In a Team?

A team name makes a definite statement about the team's personality. A name can project the team's aspirations, sense of pride and humor, or the number and fantasy status of the members. It is also capable of insulting, amusing, inspiring, or simply saying nothing — as the case when a mere number designates a team.

Which is more interesting: "Team #8 is #1" or "The Lane Masters have taken first place?"

The latter's certainly more interesting, and also says a lot more about the team members' opinion of themselves than the former.

Different mental images can be conjured up by a team name; here are a few (unused to my knowledge) samples: The Pocket Masters; The Pin Mixers; The Tenth Framers; 4 Sluts & a Queen (or vice versa); The Split Savers; The Aspirants; a King & 4 Pretenders; any of these names would be better than a number!

Starr Frain



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BLACK LASHES

ICF Whips It Out

KARL STEWART



It all started with a little camp variety show 12 years ago to raise funds for MC members sick or in need. Today, Casualty Capers is a community-wide event. Pre-show cocktails were served up by Jerry Colletti in his sumptuous Corbett townhouse, honoring act one director, Tony Ferrara.

Arriving at Cal Hall, one sensed this was a special night. The more than 600 paying customers marked the largest audience in years. The cast, too, was huge, drawing from every corner of SF.

This bright evening, like most dynamic things, had a dark side. The ICF leadership, as with some of the MC leaders, has a tendency to chew up and spit out wonderful talent. Michael Gill has announced his retirement for this reason. At the eleventh hour, after promising tickets to the Gay press, thereby evoking a great deal of enthusiasm. The ICF and MC leaders reversed the offer. The photogs were outraged, as it costs them usually

more than they make to just process film much less pay to get in. The So/M social leadership has never fully appreciated the efforts of the Gay press which spends so much time to make its events successful. Time is, after all, money, no?

EASTER PARADE

A very busy, sunny Easter Sunday: the Lily Street party is the talk of the town. These kids know how to throw a street party. The Warlocks terrorized So/M for its Easter Run, and the Eighteenth St (at Castro) bars banded together to host a joint Easter Parade. The Village has snared Flo as a new bartender; good move!

Also last weekend, Kimo opened his latest addition, a flashy new disco on the second floor of this Polk Strassa Palace. Kimo's is a compact sparkling jewel box, now with a dazzling new facet. Drop in and dance.

LEATHER WHIPS

The week began a series of leather contests. Wednesday the Brig kicked off its series. Sunday it was Chaps, where Ralph Riebli walked off with first-heat honors. Both these men will run for three rounds each, and be joined by The Eagle next week, Tuesday, May 1 at 10 p.m., and the Ramrod (they say??).

This weekend two contests of contrasting natures will occur. The Closet Ball, where several of your favorite bar/folk will make surprise appearances, and where a certain rather pissed Exec/Sec won't. Saturday at 8 p.m. Japan Town Theater will feature Miss Pat Montclair among the cast of entertainers.

Such a coup! Eartha Kitt will be the featured star at The Woods during the Mr. No.Cal Drummer Contest Friday thru Sunday. We hear Drumm's just a little miffed at this news. This is its opening weekend. Guerneville will be rocking, I guarantee it.

★ ★ ★

JC Winchester never stops: adding a big-screen video system during last week's third anniversary celebration, Wednesday at 5:18 p.m. we viewed San Francisco. He'll be featuring a video filmfest each Tuesday and Thursday during cocktail hours. Call for titles. While you're at the Eagle, you can pick up a quick sandwich or hearty soup from Constantine's Al Jutzi or his staff in the back bar area.

Heading South? Leathermen/Atlanta will host Kudzu I, a Labor Day weekend run, August 31 through September 3. The four days are \$85 and include food, enduros, bike, people events, ballgames and sendoff/winddown party at the Club Bath in Atlanta. Write: L/A Kudzu I, P.O. Box 8595, Atlanta, GA 30306, Attn: RAC.

★ ★ ★

The Ambush softball team is out to win, but they need your help. May 5, Saturday, from noon to midnight, the team will hold Blackjack and Boogie at Swedish American Hall on Market St. For a small fee, you can gamble and disco. There will be door prizes, guest dealers and lottsa fun. The fundraiser also includes the Shanti Project as a beneficiary.

Also on May 5, the Constantines will sponsor a road trip around the Bay Area, including Port Costa and Mt. Diablo. This one is free and is for bike riders and buddies only. Meet at the Ramrod at 10 a.m.

★ ★ ★

There has been a permanent fund set up in memory of The Eagles' bartender Dennis Young. Dennis' friend, Jim Green, informs us that contributions may be made in Dennis's name at Atlas Savings and Loan on 18th Street through Charles Thomas. These funds will go directly to AIDS patients for bills and rent.

★ ★ ★

A couple of pre-Closet Ball capers: The Neglected, Overworked, Bored Lords/Ladies of the Empire (NOBLEs) will have a six-year reunion at the Kokpit sponsored by the Emperor's general staff and hosted by Gene Forest (one of the originals) and NOBLEs founder Pat "Mame" McGonigle. No charge, no auction, no hassle; just fun. ■



Take it off! (Photo: Rink)



Take it off! (Photo: Rink)



Take it all off! John Kahlor doing his strip dance at the Casualty Capers last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

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BITCH IN HEAT

Real Men? Real Boring! Make Mine a Sissie

BRIAN JONES

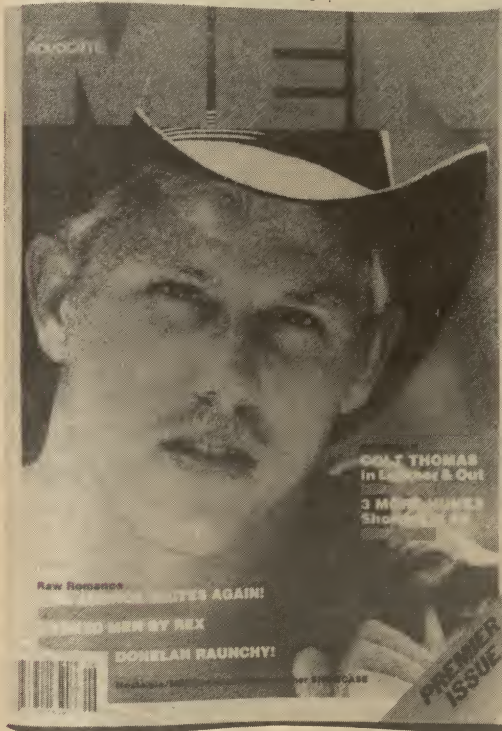
Hi, Sissies, Hi!

You know, I'm so over Butch. That's over Butch, with a space in the middle, as in "over it!" — not over-Butch, with a hyphen in the middle, as in "too, too" Butch.

It wasn't always thus. Time was I, too, lurked about in shiny black cow hides, tied up young men in the basement, called them dirty names and lashed their bare bottoms with my belt. I was ever vigilant that my wrists not hang limp (a feat I accomplished by holding a Miller beer bottle between my legs with both hands, a pose that looked

I fear the channel beneath the Golden Gate Bridge may not be deep enough to hold all the hurled bodies of disillusioned readers who will leap after learning this last-mentioned fact. So Mary-Louise would counsel Colt — in all earnestness and not meaning to dish too deeply — to get over it girl.

Real Men. That brings us to MEN — all capitals, big, BIG, block letters — the new skin mag from *The Advocate*. You know, *The Advocate* — the magazine for Gays who'd rather be straight.



as silly as it sounds) and not saying much. I have a high-pitched voice, so when I did speak, I grunted marvelously clever phrases like "Fuckin' A!" and "Wanna fuck?" and "Do you, have a food processor?"

I got over it. Part of growing up, I guess. Now, I know I'm a Sissie and that most of those awful stereotypes are TRUE! And guess what? Not awful. Not awful at all. Good, in fact. In fact, faaahulous.

So, you see I'm a new woman, and ever so much happier.

Not so some of our people.

Take Colt Thomas. I bet you'd like to. This thoroughly beautiful young man, just ending his reign as Mr. International Leather, has more than great tits and a winning smile. He also has Butch Issues. Not too long ago at the S.F. Eagle, the emcee had the temerity to refer to Colt as "Miss International Leather." Well! This was such an affront to Mr. Thomas that he nearly walked out. I am told by a photographer who does the S of M scene.

"You just don't say those kinds of things to that type of guy," the photog confided, his eyebrows appropriately arched to indicate the height of this insult. Well — why the fuck not? Check Colt's estrogen level right now! We've all got it, you know — and yes (gasp!) IT'S TRUE (oh no!) homos do indeed have generally higher levels of that female hormone than the Real Men.

God forbid anybody should ever launch a skin mag and call it *Sissies*, not in big, BIG, block letters, but in a whimsical sort of cursive-style logotype. You could use the same pictures that are in MEN, I'm so sure. I mean really. When is the last time you had sex with a straight man? Oh, it DOES happen, but hardly ever, and when it does, we certainly don't talk about it in this column.

So anyway, here's this new skin mag from *The Advocate* full of gorgeous sissies and for some odd reason it's called MEN. Though the title is beyond me, the magazine is quite good. And at \$3.95, a real steal.

One would be tempted to call *Sissies* — I mean *Men* — soft porn. There are none of the blatant sex acts that qualify as "hard porn," but some of the models are indeed hard. Among these is not included, by the way, the aforementioned Mr. Colt Thomas, whose face — described by those twisted queens at *Drummer* as "too soft" for their look (we're talking Tough Sissies here) — adorns the cover. His face graces the cover and his bod adorns the center spread, but alas and alack, dear readers, it falls upon Mary-Louise to have the sad task to inform you that his weenie in no ways is evident. For those of you into short sentences: No cock shots. Mary-Louise, however, has found that by folding the picture of the man on page 59, just so, over the centerfold picture of Mr.



The FourSkins perform "Rama Lama Ding Dong" at the Casualty Capers last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Thomas, one can pin the weenie on the stud.

There's no need to pin anything on Charles Durham. He's got everything one needs already solidly pinned down, thank you very much. Now here's a Sissie who displays a fine mix of that he-man stuff with camp sensibility. Leave it to one of the meanest S and M daddies South of Market to show us how it is done by a real draaaaag queen.

★ ★ ★

We've shifted gears here and are now cruising through "Casualty Capers '84," the annual leather bash and show to raise money for victims of motorcycle mishaps. This cocktail party wrapped around a show packed 'em in at California Hall on Saturday night. Durham, doing "We've Got Love" in drag, was one of the hot numbers who got us going.

Overall, the show was poorly brought off, but who cares. Mary-Louise doesn't care, and certainly the audience didn't care. One doesn't review volunteer-run benefit shows with the same critical eye one casts at the Golden Gate Theatre. So the choreography was choppy, the scene changes sloppy, and the sound an absolute mess; but a good time was had by all, and some of the numbers did, indeed, sizzle.

Said numbers included that towering inferno, Gregg "Tatiana" O'Shell, who cranked it up with hi-fi speakers for tits — you really *had* to be there — and Jerry Albert, the Sailor, and Warren Cave, the Leatherman, doing a camp romp on "Take Me Along."

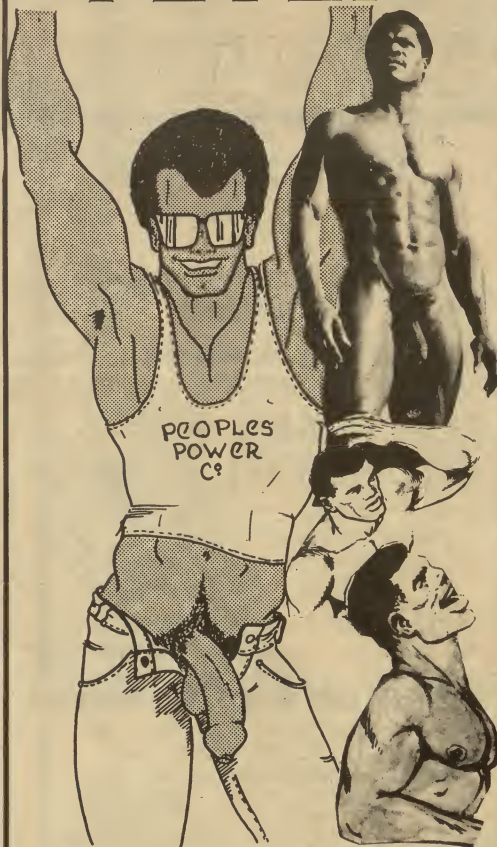
I hear the third act may have been the finest, but Mary-Louise doesn't know. She got a headache and left after the Second Act. If this isn't a real review, Mary-Louise gets to leave early and eat supper, thank you very much.

The topper of the weekend had to be the Easter Bonnet contest at the Third Annual Lily Street Fair, aka Easter Party. Now here's a little-known fact: there is, in the heart of the Black lower Haight neighborhood, a one-block enclave of Sissies — Lily Street between Buchanan and Laguna. How it got there, Mary-Louise doesn't know. Maybe a gentle reader will correspond with a bit of history on same.

For three years now, the
(Continued on next page)

SAN FRANCISCO PREMIERE ENORMOUS IN SIZE!

BLACK FEVER

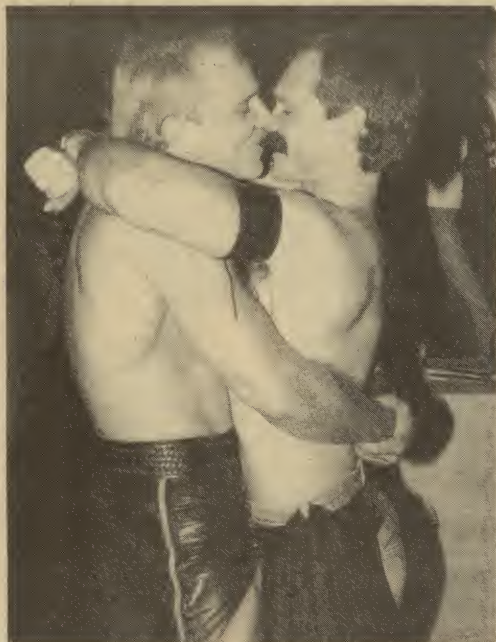


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Colt Thomas (L.) shares a quiet moment with his lover Charley at the Mr. South of Market contest. (Photo: Rink)

BITCH IN HEAT

(Continued from previous page)

neighborhood Gays have held a city-sanctioned block party, roped off that one block of Lilly Street, and staged all sorts of silliness in the April sun to

celebrate Easter. Or Passover. Or whatever.

It's a glorious sight to see so many glorious, hunky Sissies — who know they are Sissies — all decked out in their best Easter bonnets. I won't bother describing the head gear; with any luck

and a little bit of developer, Rink's pictures will do that job better than Mary-Louise can. But put the item on your must-do list for next year. Lilly Street for Easter is a gas.

Let's wrap up this real-man business and be on our way back to the Sports page to goggle at Miles Mitchell's pecs. Warren Hinckle, the epitome — or is that nadir? — of the Real Man image is at it again, in two ways. He's making fun of "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" and calling it such things as "wimpy" and "simpering" — all thinly-veiled attacks on sissiness. And he thinks "San Francisco" should prevail as the official city song because its "gut-sy" — Real-Man type stuff.

Well, Mary-Louise couldn't possibly care less which song prevails, but to boost one song over another because it's more Butch is absurd. After all, this is the city named after St. Francis of Assisi. So, Warren, dear, get off our collective dress.

While we're on the subject, Hinkle this month publishes his book *Gay Slayer*, about Dan White. He's also addressing the Gay Press Association in LA late in May. Don't ask Mary-Louise to explain that one.

The Dan White thing brings to mind, of course, the essence of what a Real Man is. You push and threaten, and when you don't get your way, you blow somebody's head off. Or, if you're really Butch, two people's heads off.

No thank you, no thank you very much. I'd rather be a Sissie. How about you?

B. Jones



Safe-Sex Activity? Olivia Neutron-Bomb shows a hunky athlete how it's done at the Lilly Street Fair last weekend. (Photo: Rink)

Quotables

by Woolly

"Behavior is a garment of mind and ought to have the conditions of a garment: First, it ought to be in fashion. Second, it should not be too curious or costly. And above all, it ought not to be straight, so as to confine the mind and interfere with its freedom . . ."

Sir Francis Bacon (1561-1626)
Essayist, philosopher, and theoretically
the author of the works of Shakespeare

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TOM ROGERS

South of Market Mourns

by Karl Stewart

One of South of Market's champions lost his battle with AIDS/KS last Saturday evening. *Bay Area Reporter's* star leather columnist, Tom Rogers, died of a cardiac arrest brought on by respiratory failure. Tom had been battling Berkitt's Lymphoma (an AIDS-related cancer) and KS, as well as other complications, when he passed on.

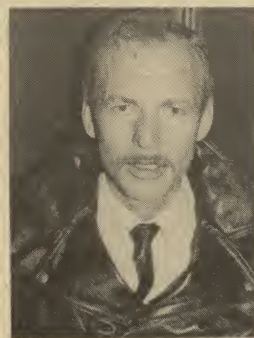
Rogers was known for his call for brotherhood among the So/M community. In his last column for the *Bay Area Reporter* (April 12) he wrote, "... our shoulders seem to be closer together. Without sacrificing our lust for one another or our general lust for fun, and in fact building this new intensity with those categories of lust intact, we have really begun to love one another. It's not just the kind of love built of temporary sympathy for victims of calamity such as the Folsom Fire, or longer-lasting medical crisis of AIDS."

Tom was an observer of Leatherlife, as well as of life in general. His heart was deep and had space for everyone who took the time to share this brotherhood and love about which he so often spoke. He observed, "We see far fewer leathermen standing in our bars throwing out 'macho' attitude and more of them willing to include a smile and a handshake as part of their display of leather-clad masculine beauty."

Rogers was born in Casper, Wyoming, in 1943. His education took place in Wyoming before entering the Navy in 1962.

Tom's interest in journalism began early. At the age of eight he and a neighbor began to publish a local newsletter. When he entered the Navy, he became one of *Pacific Stars & Stripes'* key reporters in Tokyo.

After leaving the service, career opportunities took him away from the printer's ink. He spent nearly ten years in the employ of the Sheraton-Palace, first as Director of Personnel and Staff Planning, then after a brief stint elsewhere, back to the Palace to head its food and beverage service. Tom moved to San Jose with a lover and opened Tea Leaves and Coffee (a coffee



Tom Rogers (Photo: Rink)

house) for a couple of years, moving to re-enter the personnel field. It was about this period when Tom began writing for *Lambda News* in San Jose. Tom eventually edited and published that newspaper.

Two years ago, Tom left *Lambda* and began writing a San Jose column for the *Bay Area Reporter*. He met and fell in love with Red Bentzinger and soon moved back to San Francisco. Tom started his observation of South of Market life in the *Bay Area Reporter* through his column, Rivets, in 1983. Tom and Red were a team of

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leathermen, living and loving in leather. Tom gave Red expansiveness and Red lent stability to Tom. Tom taught everyone around him what strong, masculine, manly love meant. Fortunately, we have a legacy of his words to fall back on.

Rogers was also published in *Club Scene*, an MC monthly out of Houston, and also by *Drummer* magazine, where he documented international leather and MC events.

In my visits to Tom in the hospital, it did seem to me that as his life was threatened words became more dear to him. He no longer pulled punches, but made his wise, solid observations in his calm, articulate way. Life with Tom was intense without being tense, solid without being hard. It was leather without being somber. To laugh was important.

Tom's final words in print are in the way of a thank you to his friends who cared, "One final reason . . . that I feel the brotherhood we all share has intensified is the report that more and more leathermen are coming to the ward (5B) to visit friends. I know the cards, flowers, candies, fruit baskets, and visitors I've had fill my room while hospitalized have made me feel enveloped in love in much the same way that I see all of us enveloping one another.

"We'll never find a better way to be strong."

For information on services tentatively planned, call Red at Mr. S. Products, 863-7765. Red asks that donations be made to Shanti Project or the SF AIDS Fund in lieu of flowers.

Traumatic Injuries to the Lower GI Tract

by Elliott Brender, M.D.

Handballing or the introduction of one's fist into another's rectum or colon for sexual gratification is gaining increasing popularity. Although intense sexual pleasure is described, this practice is not without risk. Severe injuries including death have been reported. The purpose of this article is neither to promote nor to criticize this practice, but rather to review the types of injuries encountered, to give various guidelines for prevention of these injuries, and to outline what to do if an injury occurs.

ANATOMY

Depending on the depth of penetration, the areas traversed are the anal canal, the rectum, the rectosigmoid junction (or so-called "second sphincter") and the sigmoid colon.

ANAL CANAL

The anal canal is a skin lined passage about 1 inch in length. Its upper end is the rectum. Surrounding the upper end is the puborectalis sling, or the mechanism responsible for maintaining continence.

FISSURES

Injuries in this area appear to be of two types. First, there can be breaks in the lining of the canal called anal fissures. These are characterized by pain on defecation usually described as stinging or burning. Also, a small amount of blood may be noted after bowel movements

either in the bowl or on the paper. Fissures may become chronic, resulting in nonhealing. A surgical procedure called a sphincterotomy is required to correct the chronic condition. Contrary to what one might think, sphincterotomy does NOT cut the anal sphincter resulting in loss of control. It provides a relaxing incision to allow the fissure to heal.

SPHINCTER DAMAGE

Second, and much more serious, is damage to the sphincter itself, resulting in varying degrees of incontinence or loss of control. These injuries always require surgical repair. One should be alerted to such injury by symptoms of severe anal pain associated with profuse bleeding which can be seen coming from a tear in the anus. Medical attention should be sought immediately. Without repair, constant soiling and the inability to control one's bowels will result.

Severe injuries require fecal diversion, described later.

RECTUM

Leaving the anal canal, the next area encountered is the rectum proper. The overall length of the rectum is variable but is usually between 4 to 5 inches. At the highest point, the rectum becomes the sigmoid colon, called the rectosigmoid junction. This area is somewhat narrowed and has been called the "second sphincter" by the handballing community. This junction is also important surgically, for it is at this point that the bowel leaves its pelvic location to enter the abdominal cavity. Injuries below this area, which in males is approximately 5 to 6 inches from the anal opening, do not result in free abdominal perforations. Injuries above this area may cause perforation. The significance of a perforation is that surgery is mandatory. Death will result unless immediate medical

attention is sought.

Bruising of the rectum usually requires no treatment. However, lacerations resulting in hemorrhage do. A small amount of blood that stops within a minute or two may not demand urgent attention, but a proctologic exam should be performed to ascertain the extent of injury.

PROCTITIS

Severe proctitis, i.e. inflammation of the rectum, may result from the introduction of normal bowel bacteria via a laceration or abrasion into the surrounding tissues. Commonly, the individual notices rectal pain along with the urge to defecate several days later. However, upon attempting to move one's bowels, there is no result. The patient often misinterprets his problem to be constipation and further compounds the problem with laxatives and enemas. Blood, mucus, and sometimes pus are present in the stool. Treatment with tetracycline for a period of 10 to 14 days commonly cures the problem but self-diagnosis and treatment are to be condemned. Anyone with such symptoms should see a physician.

HEMORRHAGE

Severe hemorrhage that does not stop after a minute or two demands immediate medical attention. Fatal bleeding has occurred. Treatment is directed at replacement of blood volume and control of further hemorrhage. If there is no evidence of perforation, these injuries may warrant observation only, as many do stop spontaneously. However, observation should be undertaken only in a hospital situation. One should NEVER "just observe the individual at home" because if hemorrhage reoccurs (and it commonly does), exsanguination can be extremely rapid. Blood losses of 4 to 6 pints within one hour (total blood volume is only 12 pints) have been reported. Recent experience with transrectal repair,

i.e. repair through the rectum, of such injuries has been favorable, eliminating the need for exploratory laparotomy, i.e. opening the abdominal cavity to inspect and ascertain the extent of injury, in many cases.

PERFORATION

The most dreaded complication is that of free perforation into the abdominal cavity. This is a FATAL injury unless there is immediate surgical intervention. Symptoms are those of bleeding and pain. The pain may NOT be severe initially because the spillage of fecal material into the abdominal cavity results in bacterial peritonitis that takes hours to develop. So, any symptoms of discomfort warrant medical attention, the sooner the better. The surgery consists of exploratory laparotomy, repair of the torn segment of the bowel (if possible), and colostomy, i.e. diverting the fecal stream away from the area of injury by bringing a piece of bowel out onto the abdominal skin, opening it, and allowing the feces to empty into a bag.

Why colostomy? It is a known medical fact that the more damaged the segment of bowel and the greater the overall fecal contamination in the surrounding area, the weaker the repair initially. Bowel leaks may occur and these can be fatal as well. By venting the bowel, which is one of the basic functions of a colostomy, the bowel is given time to heal. An interval of 8 to 12 weeks is necessary. Following this, a second operation, to restore the continuity of the GI tract is performed, i.e. colostomy closure.

This is if all goes well. Many complications secondary to the spillage of the bowel contents into the abdominal cavity as a result of the perforation can occur. Multiple intraabdominal abscesses may result in leading to months of hospitalization and multiple additional operations. Overwhelming infection leads to death in an unfortunate number of cases.

SWEETLIPS SEZ

Spring Forward for Softball

DICK WALTERS

Don't forget to "spring ahead" on your clocks this Saturday at 2 a.m. . . . that is, turn them ahead one hour, for Daylight Saving Time begins.

Tuesday, May 8, is the Tavern Guild meeting at Molly Brown's at the Russian River . . . they have a bus leaving the White Swallow for the River at 10 a.m. sharp on that Tuesday and are spending the night at the Triple R Resort . . . guess this town will be quiet for that evening.

Sorry to hear that great singer Miss Mabel Mercer passed away this past week at the age of only 84 . . . saw her last at The Mocambo on Polk Street and she was still fabulous.

There is a wonderful new bar in San Diego called Cheers and Kevin, one of the owners and a bartender, is a real hunk . . . so if you are ever down in that area, drop in and have a libation with Kevin . . . Cheers, 1839 Adams Avenue, right near Park Blvd., in San Diego.

Annie and Fred, it is nice to see the two of you getting along so fabulously lately . . . don't forget the Monday and Tuesday evenings, Fred, while Annie is working.

Rene of The Gate has a new boyfriend who carries his keys on a hula hoop . . . and why do the Bosby twins wear identical outfits on Thursday nights? . . . Jumbo petite — is that a new size from Lane Bryant, Cindy? . . . and Max, are you called Max or Richard?

Durwood of the Pilsner's softball team had a lady friend visiting him from upstate New York by the name of Marsha . . . she'll never be the same after spending a vacation at the Polk Gulch Saloon . . . guess she is going to move back here permanently. Remember, Durwood, Dolly and yours truly are putting

on a spread at Google's after the Google's vs. Pilsner Inn softball game . . . so don't forget to come and enjoy with us. We were going to have pizza, but Cha Cha doesn't eat pizza . . . do you believe that there is something that Cha Cha doesn't eat?

Have you seen the NEW look on the employees of Sutter's Mill? Very nice and clean looking, and it upgrades the atmosphere of this very pleasant bar and dining room. You look nice too, Craig Dailey, but I do love the pink shirts on the staff; thanks, Timmy.

The Ambush softball team invites you to Blackjack and Boogie, or gamble and dance, for door prizes Saturday the 5th from noon 'til midnight at Swedish-American Hall at 2174 Market . . . \$5 at the door, with a no-host bar . . . this should be a blast, as it is for the Ambush softball team and the Shanti Project . . . thank you for the

info, Don Schadle.

Don't miss Women Behind Bars at the Alcazar Theatre on Geary . . . it is a camp with a lot of beautiful lines in it and a great cast . . . you'll love it.

Well, Google's played the DeLuxe this past Sunday at softball and guess what . . . Google's won, with a score of 15-5 . . . and Rennis was the winning pitcher.

Tonight, the 26th, is the Anniversary Party of Leticia's at 2223 Market Street . . . so do drop in and help celebrate. Enjoy Mexican food at its finest and some really great margaritas.

That personable Randy Johnson is still hosting the Endup Jockstrap Contest Sunday evenings at the Endup, of course, and it is still one of the fun events of the day. Randy does a fantastic job of emceeing . . . see you soon, Randy.

The Nothing Special is closing for a few days for remodeling and will open Tuesday the 2nd with an entire new look and will be called The Special . . . now that is different.

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, April 26: Benefit In Memoriam for Tom Rogers, Chaps, 8 p.m., auction and raffle. Host: Vern Stewart.

Friday April 27: Nobles 6-Year Reunion, Kokpit, 8 p.m., presented by Emperor Rich Carle and his general staff. Hosts: Gene Forest & Pat "Mani" McGonigle.

Mr. No/Cal Drummer, The Woods (Guernville) contest through Sunday. Saturday entertainment by Eartha Kitt.

Cycle Runners' Open Meeting, Watering Hole, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 28: Strike Up the Band, auction/benefit for the SF Gay Marching Band, Trax, 3-6 p.m.

Introduction of Candidates, King and Queen of Hearts of SF, Deja Vu, 4 p.m. Hosts: Bucky and Crystal.

Closet Ball, 7 p.m. Kabuki Theatre, \$8, \$15 and \$20. (contact Sutter's/Mint)

Knights Templar Party (S/M), doors open from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. Call Jim at 863-0476 for invitation or information.

Sunday, April 29: Beer Bust, SF Eagle Patio, benefit for Temescal Gay Men's Chorus, \$6. 3 to 6 p.m., featuring performance by the chorus at 4 p.m.

Mr. Chaps Contest, Chaps, 8 p.m., 2nd heat.

Tuesday, May 1: Mr. SF Eagle Contest, SF Eagle patio, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, May 1: All Candidates Night, Mr. & Miss Gay SF, Febe's, 8 p.m. Hosts: GD Ken and Sable. Mr. San Francisco Leather Contest, The Brig, 3rd heat, 11 p.m.



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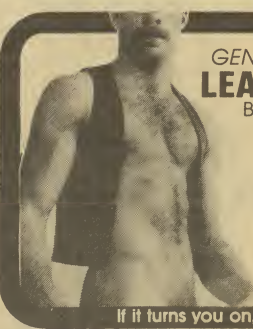
Tues. - Uncut Night

Wed. - Hairy Men's Night

Thurs. - Measure Up!

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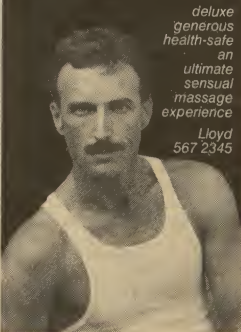
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Real good rub down by a good looking young man. My big hands work wonders on your tension and aches. Certified. \$30/in
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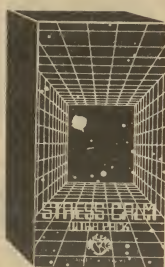
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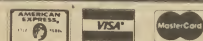
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